

**Boston Police Department**  
**Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit**  
**Parade Vehicle Inspection Criteria**

**DRIVERS**

1. All drivers must possess a valid driver's license for the class of vehicle they are operating.
2. All drivers must possess the registration for the vehicle they are operating.
3. All CDL drivers must be in FMCSA compliance. The Boston Police Officers assigned to the BPD's CVEU are Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration / D.O.T. Inspectors.

The DRIVER is legally responsible for the actions of persons on vehicles and floats

**VEHICLES**

1. All CDL vehicles must be in compliance with FMCSA.
2. All vehicles/floats/trailers/musical platforms must be properly registered by the Registry of Motor Vehicles.
3. All vehicles must have a valid state inspection.
4. All vehicles must have working head lights, brake lights, turn signals, reverse lights, horn, and windshield wipers. Cracked windshields will not be permitted.
5. All vehicles must have properly functioning brakes, including air brakes and tow break away systems.
6. All floats & trailers must use safety chains and be properly secured with a legal hitch.

7. All props on floats & trailers must be properly secured, braced or tied down to prevent movement. The Boston Police Officer performing the inspection has the final say on what is or is not “properly secured”. If the officer finds what he believes is an unsafe condition he will bring it to the attention of the vehicle operator so that adjustments or corrections may be made, time permitting. Anything obstructing the vehicle operator’s view will not be permitted onto the route.
8. All floats & trailers must provide adequate safety measures for all riders to prevent falling from platforms. The Boston Police Officer performing the inspection has the final say on what is an “adequate safety measure”. Any deficiencies will be pointed out to the operator for correction so that the vehicle may be allowed to participate, time permitting.
9. No throwing of any articles from the vehicles, floats or trailers. No jumping on and off the vehicle once it is underway.
10. No vehicles with defective or underinflated tires.
11. No vehicles with frame or suspension defects.
12. No vehicles with detectable fluid leaks. Any vehicle with a noticeable leak or with an odor of a fuel leak will be immediately removed from the assembly area or parade route and may be towed from the area.
13. No overweight vehicles.
14. No overloaded vehicles.
15. No over height vehicles – 13’6” maximum height.
16. No motor vehicle or trailer over 102” (8’6”) wide
17. No staging to be built on trailer bed unless load conforms to local, state & federal regulations.

**NO LOUD MUSIC IN THE STAGING / ASSEMBLY AREA.** This is a safety issue that will be strictly enforced. The officers conducting the vehicle

inspections need to be able to communicate with not only each other but with vehicle operators and those in and around the vehicles. Repeat offender vehicles may be removed from the assembly area and repeat offender operators may be issued a citation.

## **NO HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

No cylinders or any type of compressed gasses or fuels. This includes liquid propane, helium, nitrous oxide, acetylene, etc.

**NO GASOLINE GENERATORS. NO PROPANE GENERATORS.** All gas/diesel hybrid generators will be inspected to ensure they are filled with diesel fuel only and there are no containers of other types of fuel on board (A hybrid is a generator that can run on either gasoline or diesel as well as on either gasoline or liquid propane, or LP/diesel).

ALL diesel generators must have permit from fire prevention.

**THESE REGULATIONS ARE TO ENSURE  
THE SAFETY OF EVERYONE**