

## August 2023 activity report of the ARRL VM Program

The Volunteer Monitor (VM) Program is a joint initiative between the ARRL and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to enhance compliance in the Amateur Radio Service.

- Advisory Notices were issued to Technician operators in New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Florida for FT8 operation on 20 Meters. Technicians have no privileges on 20 Meters.
- Advisory Notices were issued to Technician operators in Texas and California for FT8 operation on 40 Meters. Technician licensees have no data privileges on that band.
- An Advisory Notice was issued to an operator in Illinois for ongoing interference and harassment of operators on 40 Meters. The licensee was informed that any additional complaints would result in a recommendation to the FCC that voice privileges be removed from his Amateur license.
- A similar Advisory was issued to an operator in New York after exceptionally rude and harassing behavior toward a net control operator, and for claiming that the frequency was "*his frequency*" because his net had used that frequency for decade." All frequencies are shared, and net longevity does not result in special privileges on any frequency.
- A former licensee in Paden City, West Virginia was advised that continued operation of a repeater on an expired license would result in an FCC referral for enforcement action.
- A licensee in Indiana was issued an Advisory Notice informing him that a repeater-owner's request for him to stay off the repeater was enforceable by the FCC and by state law.
- Two operators in Indiana received Commendations for exceptional work with C4FM technology on the 444.8 repeater in their area. The operators made extra effort to explain the technology to new users.

The totals for VM monitoring during August 2023 were: 1,679 hours on HF frequencies, and 2,138 hours on VHF frequencies and above, for a total of 3,817 hours.

**Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, Administrator**

**Volunteer Monitor Program**