

# In New Zealand, Charged for Having a Baofeng Radio

From [QRZ](#):

On 24 of August 2018 Mr Elvis Johnstone was stopped by Police in the Whangarei area. On search of Mr Johnstone's car, police located a Baofeng UV-5R two way radio. When switched on the device was set to the same frequency as the Northland Police channel.

Charges were laid by Radio Spectrum Management (RSM) under sections 113 and 114 of the Radiocommunications Act 1989. Judge Harding imposed a fine of \$3000, discounted by 25% for early guilty plea resulting in a fine of \$2250 plus court costs.

Here, it's completely legal to listen to radio frequencies. Transmitting is a different matter. But what about listening with a radio that could potentially transmit?