



STATE OF MICHIGAN

GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL L. PRINCE  
CHAIR

Horatio S. Earle Learning Center  
Tuesday, September 10, 2013  
9:00 a.m.  
MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT	REPRESENTING
Randy VanPortfliet (by conference call)	Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Lawrence Hummel	Local Representative (Van Buren County Road Commission and the County Road Association of Michigan)
Laura Rowen (Alternate for Linda Scarpetta)	Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH)
Tari Muniz	Office of Services to the Aging (OSA)
Michael Prince (Chair)	Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)
Ramona Putnam	Michigan Department of State (MDOS)
Jennifer Shea	Governor's Office
Chief David Stamm	Local Representative (Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police)

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT	REPRESENTING
Lt. Gary Megge	Michigan Department of State Police (MSP)
Kenneth Micklash	Michigan Department of Education (MDE)
Sheriff Matt Saxton	Local Representative (Michigan Sheriffs Association)

STAFF SUPPORT	REPRESENTING
Janet Hengesbach	Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)

GUESTS	REPRESENTING
Kathy Farnum	Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)
Alyson Kechkaylo	Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)
Linda Fech	Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)
Mike Harris	Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)
Ken Stecker	Prosecuting Attorney Association of Michigan
Sgt. Dwayne Gill	Michigan Department of State Police
Lt. Chris Hawkins	Michigan Department of State Police
Pat Muinch	Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
Dave Morena	Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
Carol Reagan	Michigan Department of State (MDOS)
John Harris	Michigan Department of State (MDOS)
Patrick Bowman	UMTRI
Eric Line	Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Mark Bott	Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Angie Kremer	Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Deidre Thompson	Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Tracie Leix	Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Kim Lariviere	Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)

Michael L. Prince, Chair, Office of Highway Safety Planning • Jennifer Shea, Governor's Office • Ramona Putnam, Department of State • Randy VanPortfliet, Department of Transportation • Linda Scarpetta, Department of Community Health • Kenneth Micklash, Department of Education • Lt. Gary Megge, Department of State Police • Tari Muniz, Office of Services to the Aging • Lawrence E. Hummel, Local Representative • Chief David Stamm, Local Representative • Sheriff Matt Saxton, Local Representative

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The GTSAC meeting was called to order by Chair Michael Prince at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was present for today's meeting.

## **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. Prince welcomed everyone to today's meeting. Self-introductions were made.

## **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Chief Stamm made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2013 GTSAC meeting. Mr. Hummel supported. The **MOTION** carried.

## **STANDING REPORTS**

### **Legislative Summary – Sgt. Dwayne Gill, Michigan State Police**

Sergeant Gill reviewed recent legislation relating to current traffic safety issues which included a bill that will maintain a BAC of .08 while operating a motor vehicle, waiver of a fine for violation of infant seat requirements and making electric carriage exempt from definition of motor vehicle. A copy of the prepared summary will be posted on the GTSAC Web site.

### **Commissioner Reports**

#### **Michigan Department of Community Health – Laura Rowan for Linda Scarpetta**

Child Passenger Safety Week ran from September 15 through the 21st, and the 12 Safe Kids Coalitions serving 26 Michigan Counties had various Child Car Seat Check events scheduled throughout the month (and they continue throughout the year) in the communities that they serve. These events can be found on the Safe Kids ([www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org)) website.

The Michigan Department of Community Health is exploring new partnerships to develop Safe Kids Coalitions in other communities, and are working with a potential partner in Midland County.

She also reported that at that juncture, there were 34 heatstroke deaths across the county due to children being trapped/left in cars, and two of those deaths occurred in Michigan. (To date, there have been 42 deaths nationwide, and three in Michigan). Michigan's Safe Kids Coalition leaders were interested in spearheading a campaign for early next year to begin messaging early (Heatstroke Prevention Awareness Day was July 31, and they already had one death by then) – and also their group recognized the importance of developing educational materials to target small kids-what to do if they find themselves locked in a car and they can't get out, as all the informational materials seem to be directed to parents and caregivers.

#### **Local Representative – Chief David Stamm**

Chief Stamm thanked OHSP for hosting the recent Drive Sober, Get Pulled Over campaign which was held in Grand Blanc Township. MSP has been at their facility hosting training for the new breathalyzer system at their agency twice daily for all Grand Blanc Township Officers. He also reminded all present that deer crash season is here and to be mindful of the hunters and the deer moving around.

#### **Local Representative – Mr. Larry Hummel**

The local road commissions are wrapping up projects for the summer season. He reported on recent County Road Association of Michigan's Northern/Southern combined annual conference with safety being the main topic during the conference. The recent SW/SC Traffic Safety Committee was held in Kalamazoo and was very much a success. He recently participated in the FHWA Peer Exchange regarding state and local strategic highway plans with Tracie Leix from MDOT, held in Columbus, Ohio

and he will be participating in the FHWA Peer Exchange regarding the Local Road Safety Plan Development in Minneapolis, Minnesota with Kim Lariviere from MDOT.

#### **Governor's Representative – Ms. Jennifer Shea**

Child Passenger Safety Week is September 15-21st. Safe Kids Coalitions across the state will be having car seat checks throughout the week, but many will occur on Saturday the 21st, which is known as Seat Check Saturday. Coalitions have also been asked to reach out to provide education to grandparents who are more commonly taking care of their grandchildren and might benefit from having updated Child Passenger Safety information.

A group of Michigan child passenger safety technicians have been doing car seat checks geared toward military families. Michigan military families do not live on bases and are less likely to be able to access the resources that would be provided by living on or near a military installation. When soldiers return from deployment they have to acclimate to driving in a non-threatening environment once again. Child passenger safety technicians don't often get many chances to talk to soldiers and their families about safe driving, or travel with children, but these seat checks have given us the opportunity to help the military while reminding the whole family about safer travel. On September 8th, technicians and instructors representing 5 Safe Kids coalitions came together to host a car seat check for the Army Aviation Command's Safety Day in Grand Ledge. 35 car seats were checked and 17 new seats (from an OHSP grant) were distributed to these military families.

#### **Office of Services to the Aging – Ms. Tari Muniz**

OSA continues to work with the Senior Mobility Action team and also on the 2014 North American Conference on Senior Mobility which will be held in Detroit.

#### **Michigan Department of State – Ms. Ramona Putnam**

Because of OHSP's support of the motorcycle safety program administered by the Department of State, grant funds were received for 22 training motorcycles and two professional development opportunities for rider coach classes at Grand Rapids Community College and Northern Michigan University, among other things. Rider coach training sessions were held at Macomb Community College and Delta College in Bay City. It was announced during the June meeting that the Department of State has entered into a contract for purposes of providing a driving guide for Michigan parents for teens learning to drive, which will be available at branch offices after the launch of the publication next month. Secretary of State Johnson announced the newest Michigan license plate which features the Mackinac Bridge against a Michigan sunset, which will replace the spectacular peninsulas plate. In July, Secretary Johnson announced a partnership with Michigan public libraries for access to SOS services. 20% of Michigan homes do not have internet access. Recommendations were made and approved for Traffic Safety Division staff to attend regional traffic safety committee meetings across the state sponsored by OHSP and AAA. Since the deer crash season is coming up, the Michigan Deer Crash coalition has scheduled a press conference for September 27 at 2:00 at the Oakland County Sheriff's Office.

#### **Michigan Department of Transportation – Mr. Randy VanPortFliet**

MDOT has launched an effort to better educate the traveling public by posting year-to-date fatality messages on their Dynamic Message Signs. In an Aug. 20 column in The Port Huron Times Herald, Director Steudle explained why the department's "Toward Zero Deaths" safety pilot project to display traffic fatality numbers on Dynamic Message Signs (DMS) won't distract motorists.

MDOT has also begun educating department management utilizing weekly e-mail updates of the fatality and injury numbers along with an important fact or story of interest. To further educate MDOT staff, a "Countdown to Zero" board is now displayed in the lobby of the Transportation Building in Lansing. The board displays fatalities and serious injuries to date and is updated weekly, posing the question: "What are you doing to get to Zero?"

Each year MDOT awards scholarships to local agencies to attend the Annual Safety Summit. This year 17 agencies attended the conference.

In support of the Michigan Strategic Highway Safety Plan, MDOT has established a fatality and serious injury goal. Internally the MDOT goal is to reduce fatalities 4.5% per year from 419 in 2011 to no more than 333 in 2016 and reduce serious injuries 5.8% per year from 2,286 in 2011 to no more than 1,700 in 2016.

Michigan is one of 6 states invited to participate in an FHWA PEER exchange regarding developing Local Road Safety Plans (LRSP). This PEER exchange will be held Oct. 9 & 10 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Kim Lariviere and Lynnette Firman will represent MDOT, Kajal Patel (SEMCOG), Larry Hummel (Van Buren County) and Karl Hansen (Wexford County) will represent locals from Michigan. This PEER exchange will bring together states that have already completed LRSPs. Michigan is in the process of developing LRSPs. MDOT has taken the lead on the development of LRSPs for Michigan. They are being developed based upon MDOT's Transportation Service Centers. The LRSP provides an excellent opportunity for safety stakeholders and agencies at all levels of government (local, state, and federal) to work together to align and leverage resources to address the safety challenges unique to their areas. It is the goal of these plans to identify key safety needs, and develop specific action items to help guide investment decisions to achieve reductions in fatalities and serious injuries on their roadways. It has been shown that there is more support for safety when the plan and solutions are "owned" and created by the locals.

#### **Office of Highway Safety Planning – Mr. Michael Prince**

Mr. Prince reminded those present that volunteers are needed for the GTSAC Award Nomination Committee. The meeting to choose the nominees is scheduled for Tuesday, November 19, 2013.

He provided highlights of the recent Governor's Highway Safety Administration National Conference held in San Diego. NHTSA presented a new initiative which would place greater emphasis on safety regulations. There are three areas which they are going to target – 1) seatbelt interlock device on all new vehicles, 2) forward collision avoidance mechanism, which is now available in some models but not all, and 3) alcohol detection system.

Ms. Deb Hersman, Acting Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, was also present at the conference and reviewed her three priorities which include: collision avoidance technology, impaired driving (mandatory interlock technology for all vehicles, interlocks for OWI offenders, .05 BAC), and distracted driving. She has an interest in a complete ban on all electronic devices while driving.

#### **July Enforcement Results**

Officers in 26 counties took part in the July Fourth Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over crackdown July 1-7 which was coordinated by OHSP and funded with federal traffic safety dollars. Officers made 4,434 traffic stops and arrested 131 drunk drivers. This included 25 arrests under the state's high blood alcohol content law (.17 or higher), while an additional 45 motorists were arrested for drug-related offenses. The grant-funded enforcement resulted in the apprehension of 110 fugitives. Officers also issued 137 seat belt and child seat violation tickets, 301 speeding tickets and 1,393 citations for other traffic violations.

#### **Labor Day Enforcement Results**

Law enforcement officers from 155 agencies in 26 counties participated in this year's Labor Day Drive Sober or Get Pulled over crackdown which began August 17 and ran through Labor Day. Enforcement results are expected this week. Preliminary results indicate that four people lost their lives during the Labor Day weekend compared to eight people in 2012.

Wayne State University is conducting Michigan's fall seat belt observation survey which began on September 3 and will end on September 17. Results are expected the end of September.

DDACTS

Alicia Sledge, OHSP Traffic Records Coordinator, has been working with NHTSA DDACTS staff to conduct a DDACTS training workshop specifically for officers from the Detroit Police Department. It is scheduled to take place on September 18-19, 2013, at DPD headquarters. Alicia is also working with NHTSA DDACTS staff to conduct a DDACTS workshop which will be open to all law enforcement agencies. This workshop is will take place in Southeast Michigan and is scheduled for December 10-12, 2013.

#### TACT

OHSP is coordinating a Ticketing Aggressive Cars and Trucks (TACT) program using funding from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and the Michigan Truck Safety Fund. This is the first time a TACT program will be conducted in Michigan. The goal of TACT is to reduce truck related crashes, injuries, and fatalities by combining outreach, education, and evaluation with targeted enforcement activities. The program will take place on I-196 and U.S. 31 in the Grand Rapids area. Enforcement activities will be conducted in three enforcement waves of two weeks per wave. The first wave begins October 7. The second wave will take place the first two weeks in November and the third wave will take place the first two weeks in December. A press conference is being planned to kick off the program at the Kent County Sheriff Department on October 7. The FMCSA Administrator has been invited to speak.

#### Strive for a Safer Drive

OHSP will once again be partnering with AAA Michigan and the Ford Driving Skills for Life program to conduct the Strive for a Safer Drive Program for teen drivers. This program provides funding and resources to help teens talk to teens about safe driving in the hopes of reducing serious traffic crashes, injuries, and fatalities among Michigan's most inexperienced drivers. For FY14, the program has been expanded to include high schools in 20 Michigan counties identified as the top counties for teen-involved KA crashes. (These include the counties of Allegan, Berrien, Eaton, Genesee, Ingham, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Kent, Lapeer, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Muskegon, Oakland, Ottawa, Saginaw, St. Clair, VanBuren, Washtenaw, and Wayne.) Up to 50 schools are eligible to participate. Final applications are due October 4. Additional information on this program can be found on the web at [www.michigan.gov/s4sd](http://www.michigan.gov/s4sd).

#### 2014 Traffic Safety Summit

As a reminder the dates for the 2014 Michigan Traffic Safety Summit are March 24-27, 2014 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing. It is not too late to submit suggestions for general session and workshop topics. The deadline is Friday, September 13. The form can be found on the OHSP Web site.

#### GHSA Conference

OHSP will be hosting the national conference of the Governor's Highway Safety Association scheduled for September 7-10, 2014, at the Amway in Grand Rapids. The GHSA is a nonprofit association that provides leadership and representation for the state highway safety offices to improve traffic safety, influence national policy, enhance program management, and promote best practices.

#### EMMY Awards

OHSP won two EMMY® Awards from the Michigan chapter of National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for its drunk driving ad "Excuses." The ad won in two categories, Community/Public Service and Editor/Short Form. The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences is the standard-bearer for excellence in the television broadcasting industry and the gatekeeper of the prestigious regional EMMY® Awards in Michigan. The Michigan EMMY® represents the most experienced and talented television professionals from all of Michigan's 11 television markets. The "Excuses" ad can be seen at [YouTube.com/ohsp](http://YouTube.com/ohsp)

#### ACTION ITEMS

GTSAC 2014 Meeting dates

Meeting dates for 2014 were presented before the Commission. Upon review, the members approved GTSAC meeting dates 2014.

### PRESENTATIONS

Impact of Medical Marijuana Ruling on Traffic Safety – Mr. Ken Stecker/Mr. Mike Harris  
Mr. Stecker reviewed the issues and federal and state laws regarding operating while intoxicated law regarding medical marijuana.

Mr. Harris reviewed the SFST/Advanced Road Side Impaired Enforcement/ DRE programs/training currently being held police officers to learn more about drivers under the influence of drugs/drug impairment.

Update on 2014 North American Conference on Senior Mobility – Ms. Kim Lariviere  
Ms. Lariviere reported that they have secured the conference hotel for the conference dates of May 11-14, 2014. There will be a panel discussion regarding auto manufactures on the last day of the conference. A call for papers is out currently. There will be more updates as the event draws closer.

SHSP Update – Ms. Kathy Farnum

The Action Teams are currently working on their plans with those plans being placed on the website. At the next GTSAC meeting, the activities of the Action Teams will be reviewed.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS

Mr. Pat Muinch reported they hosted Operation Quick Strike throughout the country. In Michigan, they visited approximately 50 companies where the inspectors went in and inspected the motor coaches. Many of these companies have not had inspections in the last few years. Inspections were also conducted at venues where the busses were sitting such as casinos, Detroit Tigers games, etc. If the inspectors found problems, they will go back to the companies and conduct thorough investigations, if necessary.

Ms. Deirdre Thompson reported that research is wrapping up looking at pedestrian and bicycle safety and crash rates. Surveys were conducted in four Michigan cities regarding crime as a factor to pedestrians and bicycles.

Ms. Linda Fech reported that Nissan approached OHSP regarding a teen safety program called THINK FAST. It is set up like a game show production where it is tailored to Michigan and traffic safety. More information will be shared when it becomes available.

### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 10, 2013, at the Horatio S. Earle Learning Center.

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