

**Michigan**  
**Motorcycle Action Plan**  
**2013-2016**



Rev. 12/01/2014

## CONTENTS

Disclaimer Statement.....	Page 3
Background and Problem Identification.....	Page 3
Graphs.....	Page 4
Goal(s).....	Page 6
Strategies.....	Page 6
Acronyms.....	Page 11
Acknowledgements.....	Page 11

<http://www.michigan.gov/gtsac>

### **Disclaimer Statement**

The members of the Motorcycle Action Team have prepared this document. It is considered a living document, and is a compilation of activities and initiatives to address motorcycle rider safety in the state of Michigan.

The Action Team is part of a network of ad hoc committees comprised of local, state, federal, and private partners, working in collaboration with the Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission (GTSAC) to identify traffic safety challenges and comprehensive solutions. The result of these efforts will support achievement of the mission, vision, and goals identified in the State's Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). While the strategies identified in the State's SHSP have been approved by the GTSAC, the activities and initiatives identified in this Action Plan, as well as any opinions or conclusions expressed, are those of the individual Action Team member agencies and not necessarily those of the GTSAC.

## Introduction

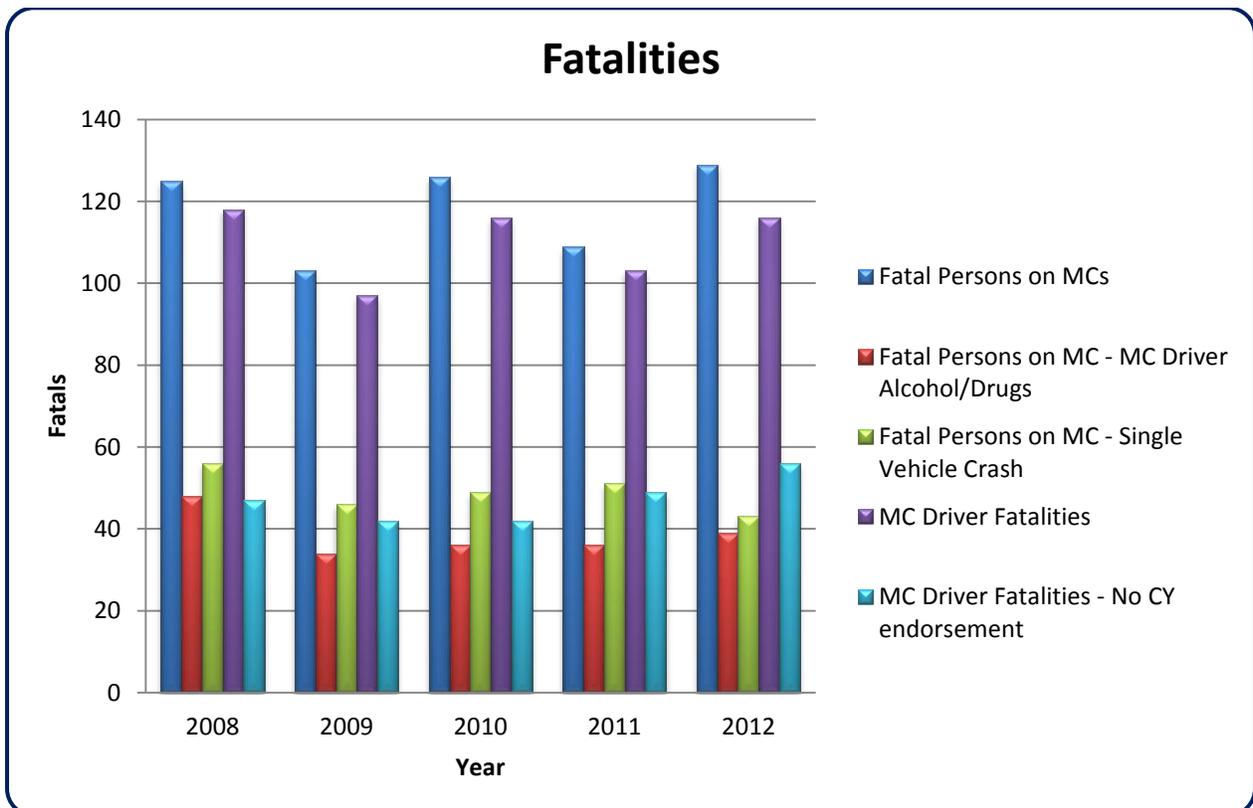
Motorcycle rider safety is an emphasis area of the Michigan Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). Per vehicle mile traveled, motorcyclists are more than 30 times more likely than passenger car occupants to die in a motor vehicle crash. This is because motorcyclists face risks not encountered when driving cars and trucks. When a crash occurs, motorcycle riders are much more vulnerable than passengers of other vehicles. Various factors such as alcohol impairment and excessive speed have been identified as contributing factors to the occurrence of motorcycle crashes. Lack of proper licensing and training are areas of major concern. Paid training is available through the Michigan Motorcycle Safety Fund.

The following statistics provide a snapshot of the motorcyclist safety issues within Michigan for 2012:

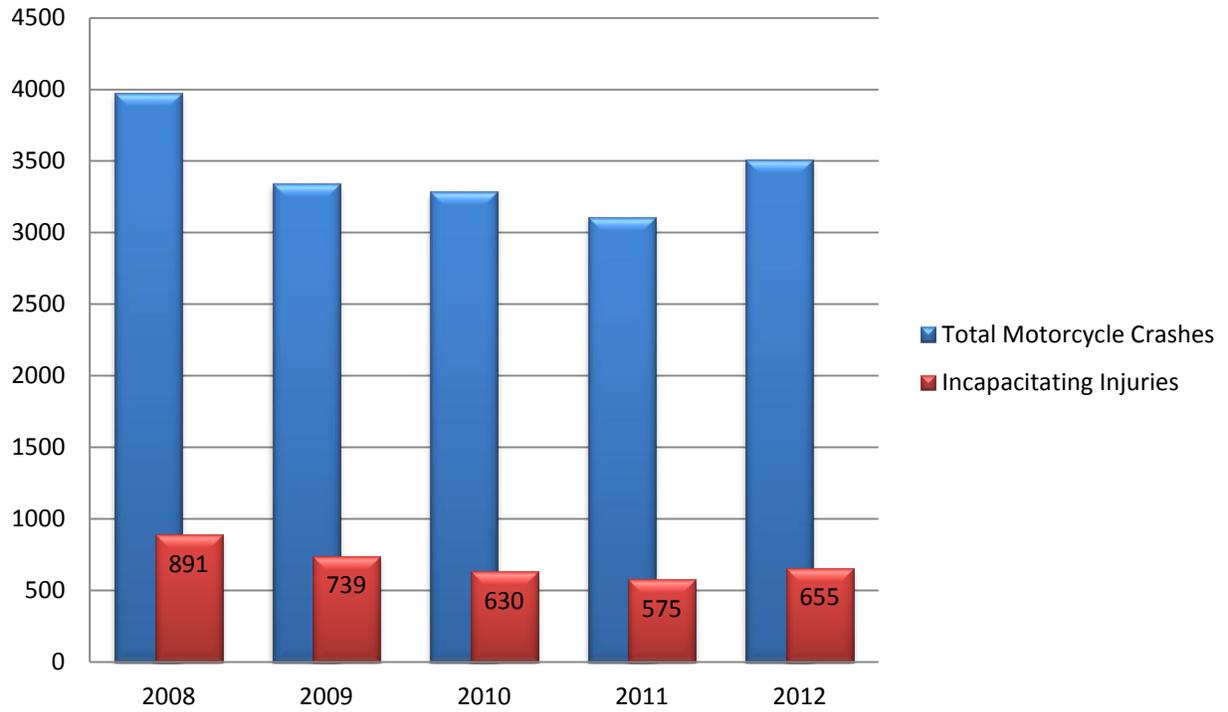
- Over 54 percent of all motorcyclists killed were unendorsed
- 20 percent of the registered motorcycle owners were unendorsed
- Over 30 percent of all motorcyclists killed involved the use of alcohol and/or drugs
- Nearly 49,000 unendorsed riders registered a motorcycle
- Over a quarter million registered motorcycles
- Over half a million endorsed motorcyclists
- Over 3,500 motorcycle crashes
- 129 fatalities and 655 incapacitating injuries
- More than 12,000 motorcyclists trained at more than 50 training sites
- 13 percent of all traffic fatalities involved a motorcycle, while only comprising 3 percent of vehicles on Michigan's roads
- More than 90 percent of riders killed were male
- Average age of motorcyclists killed was 43

\* Note - Motorcyclists are drivers and passengers

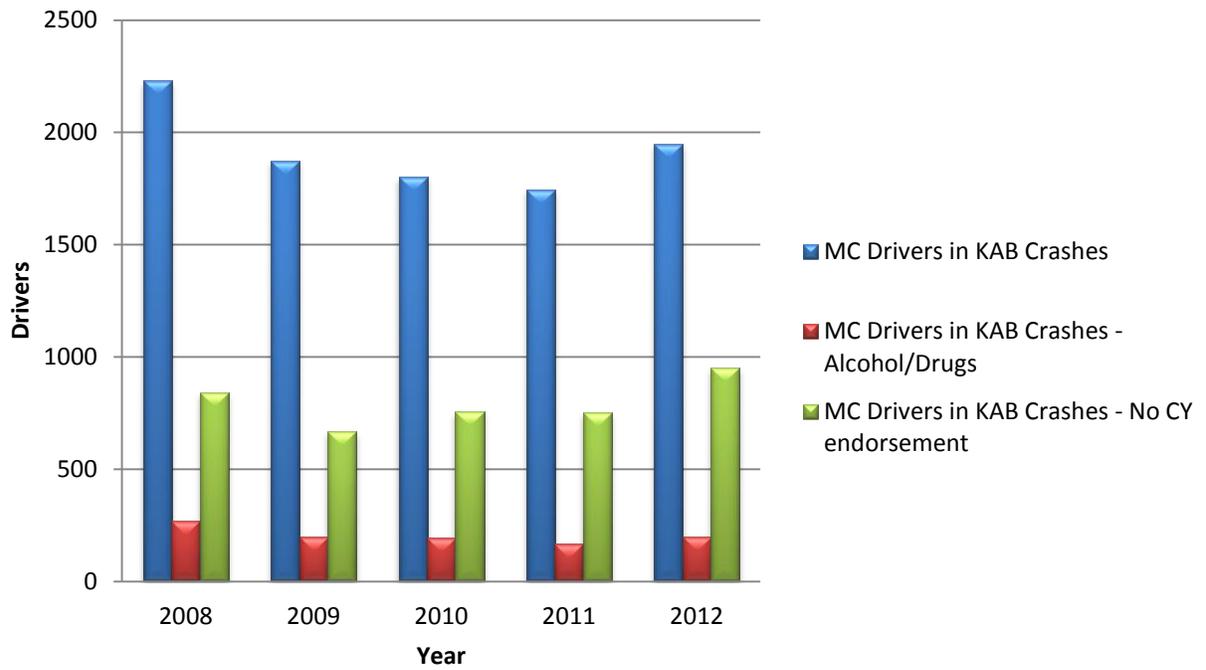
\*\* Source of data provided by University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI)

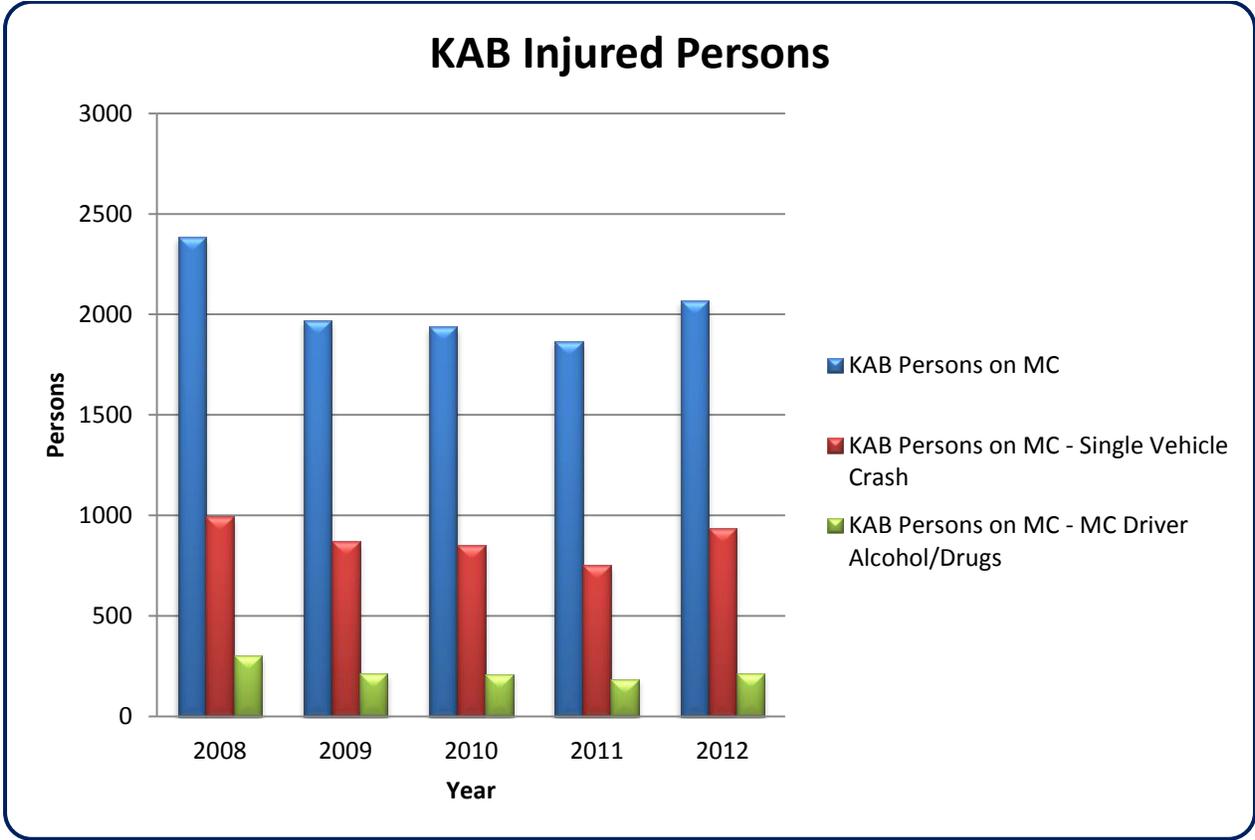


## A Injuries



## KAB-MC Drivers





**Goals**

The goals of this action team are to reduce motorcycle rider crashes, serious injuries, and fatalities through education, enforcement, engineering, and emergency response. Michigan has a responsibility to develop and implement comprehensive strategies such as training programs for motorcyclists, public awareness and education campaigns, emergency medical services education, safety legislation, and making roadway design and maintenance conducive to safe motorcycling. Specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) criteria will guide in setting the objectives to meet these goals:

- Reduce the unendorsed rider population to 15 percent by 2016.
- Reduce KA's by 3.2 percent per year by 2016.

**Strategies**

*Accomplishments, achievements, comments, and updates provided below in "Blue" as of 12/01/2014.*

**Provide recommendations related to motorcycle safety legislation.**

**Objective #1**

Identify, participate in, and promote motorcyclist safety legislation.

**Short-Term (1-2 years) Activities:**

Ensure any increase in motorcycle license plate fees must include 30 percent added to Motorcycle Safety Fund. (2014)

Lead Agency: American Bikers Aiming Toward Education (ABATE)

Contact Name: *Vince Consiglio*

*A motorcycle plate fee increase to raise funds for the motorcycle training fund was attempted but other fees for roads were included. Currently no further action has been taken at this time.*

Legislation to limit a Temporary Instruction Permit (TIP) to no more than two per person within a 10-year period. (2014)

Lead Agency: ABATE, American Motorcyclist Association (AMA), and Skilled Motorcyclist Association Responsible, Trained, & Educated Riders (SMARTER)

Contact Name: *Vince Consiglio, Terri Sweet, Dan Petterson*

*The Governor signed a new TIP bill in 2014 that now limits the number of TIPs to no more than 2 in a 10 year period. ABATE and SMARTER both supported this bill.*

Ensure any increase in motorcyclist endorsement renewal fees must include 30 percent added to the Motorcycle Safety Fund. (2015)

Lead Agency: ABATE

Contact Name: *Vince Consiglio*

*Language written for an increase in motorcycle endorsement renewal fees is on hold for review.*

### **Mid-Term (3-5 years) Activities:**

Legislation to prevent unendorsed motorcycle owners from insuring and registering a motorcycle in Michigan. (2016)

Lead Agency: SMARTER

Contact Name: *Dan Petterson*

*No action taken at this time.*

Legislation to increase motorcycle safety training course fees to \$50. (2016)

Lead Agency: ABATE, AMA, SMARTER

Contact Name: *Vince Consiglio, Terri Sweet, Dan Petterson*

*SMARTER does not support the training course fee increase to \$50, but rather supports language that would allow MDOS to adjust the fee as needed without need for future legislation. Considering revising this activity language.*

Legislation to waive the written test from the Secretary of State's office for motorcycle safety course graduates. (2016)

Lead Agency: ABATE, AMA, SMARTER

Contact Name: *Vince Consiglio, Terri Sweet, Dan Petterson*

*No action taken at this time.*

Legislation to reinstate a mandatory motorcyclist helmet law for all riders in Michigan. (2016)

Lead Agency: SMARTER

Contact Name: *Dan Petterson*

*Legislation (SB1120) was written and presented by Senator Rebekah Warren in the fall of 2014.*

*SMARTER continues to promote and support an all rider helmet law as a critical component of a comprehensive motorcyclist safety program and will continue to work to educate riders, the public, and legislators to the benefits of wearing a helmet and of the importance of an all-rider helmet law. ABATE continues to oppose any mandatory helmet legislation.*

### **Ongoing Activities:**

To continually work with the legislature to ensure Michigan laws support comprehensive motorcyclist safety efforts.

Lead Agency: ABATE, AMA, SMARTER

Contact Name: *Vince Consiglio, Terri Sweet, Dan Petterson*

*"Nathan's Law" (HB5438) was supported by many motorcyclist and bicyclist safety advocates and was signed by the Governor which requires instruction in the Segment 1 driver ed curriculum to include information about bicycle and motorcycle laws, awareness and safety.*

**Encourage motorcyclist safety through training, protective gear, and high-visibility apparel.**

**Objective #2**

Promote motorcyclist training, use of proper protective gear, and high-visibility apparel.

**Short-Term (1-2 years) Activities:**

Promote the adoption of the MSF's most current motorcyclist training curriculum. (2015)

*Lead Agency: Michigan Department of State (MDOS) and Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)*

*Contact Name: Joe Kelly, Chad Teachout*

*MDOS began the transition from the MSF BRC 2013 to the BRC "Updated" by hosting a Transitional RiderCoach Trainer Preparation (TRCTP) session in August of 2014 at the Battle Creek ANG/GRCC training site and a follow up Transitional RiderCoach Preparation (TRCP) session in September of 2014 at Schoolcraft College, Radcliffe Center training site. OHSP supported this effort by providing a grant to MDOS to use NHTSA federal funds to hold the TRCTP and the TRCP. The TRCPs will continue into the FY15 and FY16 riding seasons.*

**Mid-Term (3-5 years) Activities:**

Seek ways to increase funding for motorcyclist training courses and modernization of the training motorcycle fleet. (2016)

*Lead Agencies: MDOS and OHSP*

*Contact Name: Joe Kelly, Chad Teachout*

*Successful application for a "Buy America" waiver to NHTSA was written and granted to Michigan to purchase new foreign manufactured motorcycles for the training motorcycle fleet. Although the waiver was approved and granted to late in the fiscal year 2014 to purchase by the deadline, the waiver will be applied and used in the 2015 federal grant application from OHSP to MDOS.*

**Ongoing Activities:**

Engage with other states and national motorcyclist safety programs through the National Association of State Motorcycle Safety Administrators (SMSA) to bring fresh perspectives and new ideas to the table from other state and national sources.

*Lead Agencies: MDOS and OHSP*

*Contact Name: Joe Kelly, Chad Teachout*

*Joe Kelly was elected in 2014 to the Central Region Representative Chair on the SMSA Executive Committee and is the liaison for the Policy and Planning Committee. Chad Teachout represents the Central Region on the Motorcycle Programs Committee and SMSA is currently working to establish a Data Committee that Chad would take part in, in the near future. MDOS and OHSP continue to support the efforts of SMSA by way of State level and Individual level memberships and by supporting the attendance and involvement of MDOS and OHSP staff at the Annual SMSA conference and other committee meetings.*

Use publicly funded grant courses to expose the public to, and promote the use, of high-visibility (HighViz) riding gear.

*Lead Agencies: MDOS and OHSP*

*Contact Name: Joe Kelly, Chad Teachout*

*More than 8,200 students were exposed to high visibility riding gear in grant funded courses during the 2014 training season.*

Raise public awareness of motorcyclist training opportunities, motorcycle endorsement requirements, and use of High-Viz riding gear through the "May is Motorcyclist Safety Awareness Month" campaign and promote at motorcyclist events around the state of Michigan.

*Lead Agencies: MDOS and OHSP*

Contact Name: **Joe Kelly, Chad Teachout**

*OHSP and MDOS partnered at several motorcycle shows and events around Michigan in 2014, speaking with thousands of motorcyclists about the importance of training and getting their endorsement, while promoting the use of high-viz riding gear and raffling off high-viz motorcycle riding vests. "May is Motorcyclist Safety Awareness Month" focused on sharing the road, motorcyclist safety training, and the use of high-viz riding gear. A press event was held on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 at Motor City Harley-Davidson where the SOS, OHSP, and ABATE spoke endorsing these efforts. OHSP and MDOT partnered to provide and place "Share the Road" posters at MDOT rest areas across the state.*

Develop and promote the web site HighViz.org, providing riders with information on strategies to make themselves more visible.

Lead Agency: MDOS, OHSP, SMARTER

Contact Name: **Joe Kelly, Chad Teachout, Dan Petterson**

*SMARTER continues to host and support the Highviz.org website with minor updates to content and plans for a major expansion as funds become available.*

Provide annual regional professional development opportunities and periodic statewide conferences for Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) RiderCoaches, RiderCoach Trainers, and program management staff.

Lead Agencies: MDOS and OHSP

Contact Name: **Joe Kelly, Chad Teachout**

*This activity continues to be an ongoing process to keep Michigan's RiderCoaches updated on MSF training course curriculums. MDOS and OHSP will continue to support the Transitional RiderCoach Preparation (TRCP) sessions as Michigan continues to move ahead with transitioning to the MSF BRC "Updated".*

**Investigate training opportunities for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel that specifically address the types of crash trauma caused by motorcycle crashes and how to provide optimal on-scene care.**

### **Objective #3**

Train EMS personnel to specifically address the types of crash trauma caused by motorcycle crashes and how to provide optimal on-scene care to those injured.

#### **Ongoing Activities:**

Promote and provide training in motorcycle accident scene management. Increase EMS and public awareness of proper procedures for reducing injuries and fatalities at the scene of a motorcycle crash.

Lead Agency: Accident Scene Management

Contact Name: **Debbie Parinello**

*ASM EMS specialist Debbie Parinello continues to teach First Responders across Michigan how to become more comfortable with handling patients at a motorcycle crash scene, which include proper helmet, the jaw thrust maneuver, and dealing with potential hazards at a motorcycle crash scene. A survey of EMS personnel and First Responders revealed that 70% of them were not comfortable with handling motorcycle crash victims. Debbie plans to continue this ongoing effort to train these EMS professionals to increase their knowledge and comfort levels.*

Conduct annual EMS trainings to enhance the effectiveness of EMS at the scene of a motorcycle crash.

Lead Agency: Accident Scene Management

Contact Name: **Debbie Parinello**

*Will be working with the State EMS Director, with hopes to include more motorcycle specific criteria to be included in the requirements for State Licensing as soon as the EMS Director position is filled due to a current vacancy.*

Conduct annual trainings to teach the basics of motorcyclist trauma using P.A.C.T. (*Prevent Further Injury, Assess the Situation, Contact EMS, Treat the Injured with Life Sustaining Care*) at a motorcycle crash scene. This training is geared toward the bystander and untrained rescuer. [This training has a separate course available for EMS and First Responders and is accredited by the Wisconsin Nursing Association with continuing education credits being awarded.](#)

Lead Agency: Accident Scene Management  
Contact Name: **Debbie Parinello**

**Support public information and education campaigns.**

**Objective #4**

Create and promote new public information and education campaigns.

**Ongoing Activities:**

Through the *Ride Safe to Ride Again* campaign, continue to promote the importance of a comprehensive safe motorcycling mindset.

Foster the acceptance and use of HighViz riding gear  
Expand access to and awareness of training opportunities for motorcyclists  
Communicate to unendorsed motorcycle owners the benefits of being trained and endorsed

Lead Agency: OHSP

Contact Name: **Chad Teachout**

*OHSP continues to promote training, getting a motorcycle endorsement, and the use of High-viz riding gear by way of the Ride Safe to Ride Again campaign. OHSP has supported the endorsement by several action team members with the "Shadow Rider" project where unendorsed riders are mailed a post card informing the rider of the benefits and consequences of training and riding unendorsed. OHSP will continue this effort and the attendance of motorcycle shows and events where they partner with MDOS and other action team partners to promote these messages.*

Educate the public about the benefits of wearing a helmet and protective gear.

Lead Agency: SMARTER

Contact Name: **Dan Petterson**

*SMARTER continues to promote and educate riders about the benefits of wearing a helmet and other protective riding gear by way of the SMARTER website, Facebook, and literature to hand out.*

Educate law enforcement, prosecutors, and courts about the important role they play in helping to reduce the unendorsed rider population and save motorcyclist lives.

Lead Agency: Michigan State Police (MSP), OHSP, Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan (PAAM)

Contact Name: **1Lt Jim Flegel, Chad Teachout, Ken Stecker**

*OHSP and MSP partnered to develop a Law Enforcement Action Kit (LEAK) that will provide a roll call video and a MVC tip card to all Michigan LE to better make LE aware of the laws that apply to motorcycles and what LE can do to further prevent unendorsed riders from being over represented in the crashes, injuries, and fatalities. The LE roll call video and tip card will be mailed out to all LE agencies in the spring of 2015.*

Through the *Look Twice Save a Life* campaign, educate motorists, making them more aware of motorcyclists by speaking at and distributing literature in driver's education classrooms, mailings to vehicle owners through MDOS, and placement of motorcyclist awareness signs.

Lead Agency: ABATE

Contact Name: **Vince Consiglio**

*ABATE continues this campaign all across Michigan in driver ed classrooms, mailings, signs, and talking with motorists and motorcyclists at shows and events. ABATE is encouraging the use of Federal Funds to promote the, "Look Twice to Save a Life" campaign.*

**Evaluate the safety impact of engineering countermeasures and maintenance of Michigan roadways to better accommodate motorcyclists.**

**Objective #5**

Ensure design, engineering, construction, and maintenance of Michigan roadways better accommodate motorcyclists and their safety.

**Short-Term (1-2 years) Activities:**

Examine the practices and study the effects on motorcycles of the following maintenance activities: pothole maintenance, low friction asphalt sealants and crack fillers, low friction pavement markings, and grooving of concrete pavement. (2014)

Lead Agency: Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)

Contact Name: **Eric Line**

*MDOT has begun looking at standards for crack fill and pavement marking friction. (This action item should be long term and be extended past 2014)*

Collaborate with state and local road maintenance and work zone personnel on safety concerns motorcyclists have such as raised manhole covers, uneven pavement conditions, gravel or debris on roadway, chip sealers used on roadways, excessive over band crack-fillers and joint sealers used on roadways, and stop light loop detection systems that do not detect a motorcycle. (2015)

Lead Agency: MDOT

Contact Name: **Eric Line**

*MDOT is placing warning signs in select work zones to warn motorcyclists of changing road conditions such as uneven pavement and lane shifts that cross rumble strips. MDOT continues to run motorcycle safety messages on the Digital Message Signs (DMS) for motorcycle safety month and national ride to work day.*

**Mid-Term (3-5 years) Activities:**

Study the impact of new barrier technology on state trunk lines. (2016)

Lead Agency: MDOT

Contact Name: **Eric Line**

*MDOT recently completed a study on the impact that the new cable barriers have to prevent and reduce fatal and severe motor vehicle crashes. The barriers are designed to reduce the severity of crashes by preventing cross median crashes. A component of the study focused on the effects of motorcycle involved crashes. The results of the study were made available in the fall of 2014.*

**Long-Term (5+ years) Activities:**

Study the impact of the new "Safety Edge" roadway shoulder edge-drop treatments. (2016)

Lead Agency: MDOT

Contact Name: **Eric Line**

*No action taken at this time.*

**Ongoing Activities:**

Enhance relationships and collaborate with the County Road Association of Michigan (CRAM) and the Michigan Municipal League (MML).

Lead Agency: MDOT

Contact Name: **Eric Line**

*The Motorcycle Safety Action Team now has a new safety partner who represents Michigan Counties and the concerns of motorcyclists.-Mike Shultz; Michigan County Road Commission Self Insurance Pool (MCRCSIP)*

## **Acronyms**

A-Injury	Incapacitating Injury
ABATE	American Bikers Aiming Toward Education
AMA	American Motorcyclist Association
B-Injury	Non-Incapacitating Injury
BAC	Blood Alcohol Concentration
<a href="#">CE</a>	<a href="#">Continuing Education</a>
CRAM	County Road Association of Michigan
CY	Cycle
<a href="#">DMS</a>	<a href="#">Digital Message Signs</a>
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
GTSAC	Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission
<a href="#">HB</a>	<a href="#">House Bill</a>
High-Viz	High Visibility
K	Killed
KA	Killed, A-Injury
KAB	Killed, A-Injury, and B-Injury Combined
<a href="#">LE</a>	<a href="#">Law Enforcement</a>
<a href="#">LEAK</a>	<a href="#">Law Enforcement Action Kit</a>
<a href="#">MCRCSIP</a>	<a href="#">Michigan County Road Commission Self Insurance Pool</a>
MDOS	Michigan Department of State
MDOT	Michigan Department of Transportation
MML	Michigan Municipal League
MSF	Motorcycle Safety Foundation
MSP	Michigan State Police
MVC	Motor Vehicle Code
NHTSA	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
OHSP	Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning
PAAM	Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan
PACT	Prevent, Assess, Contact, Treat
<a href="#">SB</a>	<a href="#">Senate Bill</a>
SHSP	Strategic Highway Safety Plan
SMARTER	Skilled Motorcyclist Association Responsible, Trained, & Educated Riders
<a href="#">SMSA</a>	<a href="#">National Association of State Motorcycle Safety Administrators</a>
<a href="#">SOS</a>	<a href="#">Secretary of State</a>
TIP	Temporary Instruction Permit
<a href="#">TRCP</a>	<a href="#">Transitional RiderCoach Preparation</a>
<a href="#">TRCTP</a>	<a href="#">Transitional RiderCoach Trainer Preparation</a>
UMTRI	University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute

## **Acknowledgements**

The Michigan Motorcycle Action Team consists of members of the following agencies:

AAA  
ABATE  
Accident Scene Management  
AMA/D14  
[American Legion](#)  
[American Legion Riders](#)  
Detroit Police Department  
Grand Blanc Twp PD  
[Grand Rapids Community College](#)  
Grand Rapids Police Department  
GWRRA  
[MCRCSIP](#)  
MDOS  
MDOT  
Michigan Motorcycle Dealers Association  
MSF  
MSP  
OHSP  
PAAM  
SMARTER  
[SMSA](#)  
United States Air Force  
United States Army  
[University of Michigan](#)  
Wayne State University