

SAFE PASSAGE TASK FORCE

Meeting Minutes

September 5, 2008 10:00am

Log Cabin, New Jersey State Police Division Headquarters

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Captain Warren Shakespeare.

II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

An attendance sheet was circulated.

III. ITEMS

- a) Captain asked attendees to consider priorities for Task Force as we move forward into 2009 and submit proposals at next meeting.
- b) Year to date crash and fatality update was provided by Sgt. R. Foulks. Year to date fatalities reflect a 19.8 % decrease (-96). See attached statistical sheet.
- c) Bill Beans reported that the NJTR-1 pilot program in Hanover has been sidetracked as that department has backed out of their commitment. Geo-locating and diagraming are current issues.
- d) Bills Beans reported that Federal Motor Carriers have reported insufficiencies in our data collection. Visor cards (8000) are being developed to aid officers in the field. The Police Manual is to be modified and training for NJ officers is to be held Oct-Nov 2008.
- e) Bill Beans reports that the DOT Safe Corridors have conducted over 70 engineering actions over the last three years, more that 50 are in progress, and 25 future actions are planned
- f) Bill Beans reports that the DVRPC is prioritizing the securing of funding in order to carry out future projects.
- g) Bill Beans requests a listing of all department ORIs and official names in order to assess submission rates and accuracies pertaining to NJTR-1.
- h) Captain Shakespeare reports that the NJSP ITB is working with existing RMS to achieve electronic NJTR-1.

- i) Sgt. C. Reinhart reports that the more collaborative effort on holiday enforcement programs has resulted in a steady decrease of holiday related fatalities. The cooperation of NJDOT statewide traffic operations and the use of their VMS has enhanced this effort.
- j) Captain Shakespeare reports that the DVRPC held its legislative symposium and discussed plea bargains and the potential negative effects, photo radar and the continuing opposition, with the possibility that it be rolled out in a construction of school zone.
- k) Sgt. M. Brunson reports that there are continuing conflicts with the operation of Verizon safety patrols within municipalities with local police. He advises that legislation compelling first call to locals be made is being considered.
- l) Captain Shakespeare reports on behalf of Pam Fischer, DHTS, her support of S18, making seatbelt mandatory for all occupants.
- m) Pat Ott, NJDOT, report that several towns have submitted applications for Red Light Running pilot program. They are being reviewed on a rolling basis.
- n) Chief J. Coyle reports that in the recently passed Click It or Ticket program there was a 50% increase in drug arrests. His office is looking for specific anecdotal stories of occupant enforcement leading to notable circumstances.
- o) Chief Coyle reports that a Tactical Occupant Protection (TOP) strategy training is coming up in Oct. 2008. Additionally the Chiefs Challenge will continue again this year.
- p) Captain Shakespeare reports on behalf of Pam Fisher that this year's "Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day" will be October 10, 2008.
- q) Captain Shakespeare reports on behalf of Pam Fisher that this year's Smooth Operator aggressive driver enforcement campaign was a success and will be expanded next year.
- r) Captain Shakespeare reports on behalf of Mindy Lazar, MADD, that universities are considering support of a lowering of the drinking age to 18. The task force should work to oppose such a move.
- s) Lt. T. Arcaro reports that the NJSP will teach "Alive at 25" at all SP schools in 2008-2009.
- t) Wendy Burk reports that a parent component of the "You Got Brains" website is being developed. The Brain Injury Institute conducted informal surveys regarding driving behavior at the PNC. A video summary of points learned will be

forthcoming.

- u) DAG J. Dell'Aquilo reports that all municipal judges have been trained in issues surrounding Alcotest. Prosecutors are still being trained.
- v) Pat Ott reports that signal optimization along Route 10 has alleviated some reported problems but created a new series of complaints. Dot has direct control over 3,000 of the 10,000 traffic signals across the state.
- w) During an open forum Sgt. M. Brunson expressed interest in having his department pilot a speed and weight enforcement program for trucks. Bill Beans reported that a data warehousing project is progressing and will lead to the ability to mine relational data for traffic safety matters. Bill Beans will be attending a meeting of county engineers in October and asked if anyone would like a particular concern expressed to contact him.

IV. **CLOSING REMARKS**

- a) LTC J. Mattos addressed the attendees and expressed continued admiration for the progress made as well as the ability for all of the various organizations to meld together for a common goal.
- b) The next Safe Passage Task Force meeting is scheduled for 10:00am on Friday October 31, at the Log Cabin, NJSP Division Headquarters.