

# “Watch out behind you!”



## Responder Safety on the Roadway



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# Original Incident

- Ladder 2 and Squad 2 arrive at 1923 hrs.
- Squad 2 positioned behind initial crash (Car #1)
- Ladder 2 establishes a blocking position approximately 150 yards behind the Squad.
- Highway Patrol and City Police units still responding to the scene.



# Secondary Crashes

- At 1926 hrs Ladder 2 reports being struck from behind (Car #2)
- Ladder 2 personnel and one Squad 2 firefighter begin checking on injuries in the vehicle



# Secondary Crashes

- Ladder 2 is struck a third time (Car #4) within the next two minutes
- At 1932 hours the Assistant Chief and Squad 1 arrive on scene.



# Aftermath of the Crashes

- 1 firefighter fatality
- 1 firefighter injured
- 2 civilians injured
- Four crashes in 9 min.





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# Responder Safety

- Traffic speeds and congestion are continually increasing
- Responders are being struck by, and seriously injured or killed, by traffic at an alarming, and increasing rate
- There are many things that can be done to prevent these injuries and deaths





# Training

- Establish Policies and Procedures
- Initial Training
- Review Policies and Procedures
- Annual Refresher
- Table-top Exercises or Online Simulations



# Policies and Procedures

- Follow Department guidelines to establish Policies and Procedures
- Components of a Policy
  - Terminology
  - Incident Command
  - Safety
  - Apparatus Placement
  - Operations – High Volume and Limited Access roadways



# Multi-Agency Response

## Establish Partnerships:

- Agencies and Services
- Capabilities
- Resources
- Common Practices



# Multi-Agency Response

- The Three C's

- Communication

- Prior to, during, and following the incident

- Cooperation

- Cooperation vs. Competition

- Collaboration/Coordination

- Collaboration before the incident
- Coordination during the incident

**Every agency has a role to play in safety  
and incident stabilization**



# National Initiatives and Standards

## National Unified Goal for Traffic Incident Management (TIM)

### Key Strategies:

1. Standardized Responder Safety Operational Procedures
2. Accredited Traffic Safety Control Training for all TIM Responders
3. Responder Safety Policies and Legislation
4. Motorist Training and Awareness Programs



# National Unified Goal

- Standardized Responder Safety Operational Procedures
  - Traffic control at traffic incident scenes
  - High-visibility personal protective equipment
  - Incident command system
  - Temporary Traffic Control
  - Emergency lighting discipline



# National Unified Goal

- Traffic Safety and Traffic Control Training for Responders
  - Multidisciplinary training for traffic incident responders
  - Specialized Training
    - Traffic safety awareness
    - Traffic control strategies and tactics



# National Initiatives and Standards

- NFPA 1500
  - Traffic Incidents
    - Requires
      - Establishing and Implementing Policies and Procedures
      - Blocking with apparatus to protect responders
      - Use of Temporary Traffic Control Devices
      - Use of high visibility garments
      - Training





# Definitions

**Taper** – the action of merging several lanes of moving traffic into fewer moving lanes



# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

## ANSI high visibility vests

- ANSI 107

- 107 breaks vests into three classes:

- Class 3 – Offers the greatest visibility to the wearer in complex backgrounds and through a full range of body movements
- Class 2 – Provides superior visibility to the wearer by additional coverage to the torso, and is more conspicuous than Class 1
- Class 1 – Provides the minimum amount of required material to differentiate the wearer from the work environment



Class 3



Class 2



# ANSI/ISEA Compliant Vests



*ANSI/ISEA 107 - American National Standard  
for High-Visibility Public Safety Vests*



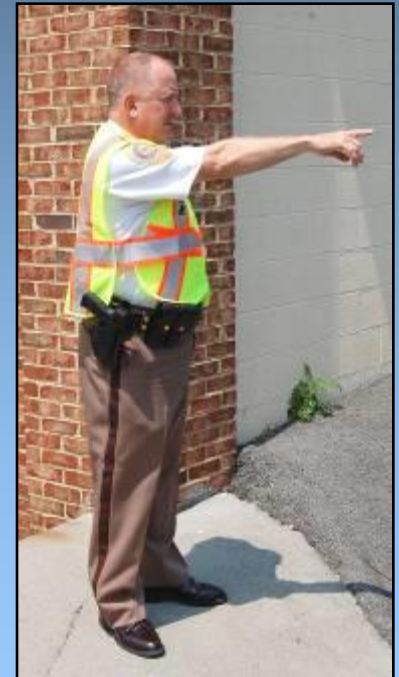
*ANSI/ISEA 207 - American National Standard for  
High-Visibility Safety Apparel and Headwear*

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# Public Safety Vests

- Provide access to equipment while worn
- Can be easily worn over firefighting PPE
- Optional breakaway safety feature



# Labeling



Label from new Public Safety Vest  
Meets requirements of both  
ANSI/ISEA 207 and 107

Label from older Class 3 vest  
Met requirements of  
ANSI/ISEA 107-1999

Use the most current version of ANSI and/or NFPA standards when ordering new PPE!



# Cone Deployment



One lane taper with safety cone

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# Temporary Traffic Control (TTC)



- Warning signs used in the TTC
  - Fluorescent pink background
  - Black letters and border
- Signs should be positioned to provide maximum advanced warning to oncoming traffic



# Safety Benchmarks

2. Never trust approaching traffic.



3. Avoid turning your back to approaching traffic.





# Evaluate the Scene



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# Tabletop Exercise

