

# Collier – Lee - Charlotte Traffic Incident Management Team December 12, 2018 Meeting Minutes

# Attendees:

Name Kevin Smith Brandy Boccuti Charles Stratton Robbie Brown Brian Raimondo Raul Corbo Reginald Faust Lenny Diogo Glenn Hedgecloth Chris Oncken Kevin Salsbery	Agency Parsons Metric Engineering, Inc. Metric Engineering, Inc. FDOT Lee Co. MPO Anchor Towing DBI Services Jaimes Towing & Recovery FHP Wanted Dead or Alive Towing FDOT	<u>Name</u> Lakshmi Gurram Ray Mikol Gene Rogers Bill Floyd Mike Smith Chris Spears Lindsay Sutton Brian Torres Kevin Giron Cathy Bartley	Agency Charlotte Co. Punta Gorda MPO SWIFT SunGuide Center South Trail Fire District Lee Co. Emergency Mgt. DBI Services G&C Auto – Towing DBI Services North Collier Fire Rescue FDOT FDOT
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<u>Call to Order</u>: The Collier-Lee-Charlotte TIM Team meeting was held on Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 9:30 AM at SWIFT SunGuide Center, 10041 Daniels Parkway, Fort Myers, Florida 33913. Charles Stratton, Brandy Boccuti, and Kevin Smith facilitated the meeting.

# Introductions:

Team members introduced themselves and the agencies they represent.

# Agency News:

Road Rangers No agency updates

Towing and Wrecker News No agency updates

# Other Agency News

Bria Raimondo, Lee County MPO, informed the team that they have been reviewing and discussing funding for the LiDAR radar technology to help Law Enforcement with crash investigations. Laser scanning offers many benefits to the forensic world, including: More complete evidence gathering

than ever before, Reduced time in the field Significant road closure time reduction, New innovative and engaging ways to present evidence, and Data can assist in crime scene and collision analysis. To learn more about the technology, please click on the following link: <u>Riegl USA</u> Informational Booklet

# Update on TIM Initiatives:

# National/State/Regional

Kevin Smith, Parsons Corporation, presented responder distracted driving to the team. Ambulances, police cars and other vehicles used by first responders are generally filled with various devices, including cell phones, two-way radios, laptops and GPS units -- all of which can lead to distracted or dangerous driving. While it is true that use of such technology can possibly save lives, the devices might also lead to serious accidents and injuries.

There are a number of devices that can distract first responders. Analysts have found that about 75 percent of police vehicles and 30 percent of ambulances are equipped with computers that are typically used to assist first responders with the emergency at hand. GPS units are also used to help responders reach the emergency quicker.

As important as computers and GPS units are to responders, they generally are not easy to operate, particularly when traveling at high rates of speed in an effort to reach the emergency in a timely fashion.

To view the full presentation, please visit our TIM team website at: http://www.swfltim.org/

Brandy Boccuti, Metric Engineering, informed the team about the 2018 National Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Campaign. The campaign will take place over the month of December. Every day, almost 29 people in the United States die in alcohol-impaired vehicle crashes—that's one person every 50 minutes in 2016. Drunk-driving fatalities have fallen by a third in the last three decades; however, drunk-driving crashes claim more than 10,000 lives per year.

To learn more about the campaign, please visit the following website: <u>2018 Campaign</u>

Gene Rogers, South Trail Assistant Fire Chief, presented to the team on communication during responding to traffic incidents. A recent incident that occurred at Mile Marker 132/135 Northbound in Lee County was used as an example. The incident involved a large commercial vehicle that traveled across the protected median and crashed into a full-sized SUV which caused the SUV to catch on fire.

Upon arrival responders found one SUV fully involved presenting a split scene. Vehicles, potential hazards, and patients existed on both the northbound and southbound travel lanes. This is one of the most dangerous and challenging types of highway incidents.

Please visit our TIM team website to view the full presentation which includes audio of the communication among the first responders during the incident at: <u>http://www.swfltim.org/</u>

Charles Stratton, Metric Engineering, reviewed with the team the results from the 2018 Self-Assessment and discussed the 2019 areas of focus. It was stated that secondary incidents and outreach will still be a main focus for the team for the upcoming year.

After Action Reviews (AAR) provides agencies with actionable intel on an incident or event that can be used for improved strategies for future occurrences, demonstrate the benefit of quick clearance practices and improve cross-agency coordination and communication.

AARs where performed on the following recent major incidents:

10/04/2018 Event Number 531098 I-75 Southbound at Mile Marker 69 Stranded motorist

Lessons Learned:

Road Ranger took approximately an hour to move the stranded vehicle out of the right lane and onto the shoulder. Push/pull/drag (if possible) the vehicle out of the roadway or immediately call for a wrecker to remove the vehicle.

Tie Lessons to Future Performance:

Once it is obvious a tow truck is needed, have them en route. If the vehicle can be pushed/pulled/drug out of the roadway, this is the best practice.

11/01/2018 Event Number 557151 I-75 Southbound at Exit Ramp 170 Stranded RV/motorhome

Lessons learned:

FHP attempted to allow the driver to get his own service to fix the issue. Per FHP, only a small portion of the vehicle was in the lane of travel and no congestion/queue formed at any time during the 4-hour incident.

# Tie Lessons to Future Performance:

While all first responders must use discretion while handling incidents, we must be pragmatic in this decision-making process. If there is no impact to traffic, first responders have more leeway in how the scene will be cleared.

11/03/2018 Event Number 557925 I-75 Southbound at Mile Marker FHP Trooper rear-ended

Lessons Learned:

During any serious injury crash involving law enforcement/government vehicles, the LEO will conduct the investigation along the lines of a Traffic Homicide. Traffic Homicide investigations take more time than a 'regular crash.' Once the investigation was over, FHP was able to open roadway quickly.

Tie Lessons to Future Performance:

All responders working together to share information on issues faced on scene and document/share those issues can enhance cooperation and roadway clearance.

11/15/2018 Event Numbers 560080, 560081,560082 I-75 Southbound at Mile Marker 104 Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) Crash involving large box truck and pick-up with large enclosed trailer.

#### Lessons Learned:

RISC was initially activated but canceled and rotation tower called. FHP in the meeting advises this may have been done because there are no RISC towers in Collier County and they would have an hour to respond; the rotation towers have 30 minutes to respond. It took the rotation tower several hours to clear the roadway. The rotation tower used a flatbed to load the truck/trailer combo instead of using the proper equipment

# Tie Lessons to Future Performance:

Early RISC activation guarantees the proper equipment responds and continued good communication will ensure any additional equipment will respond in a timely manner.

# FDOT Construction Update

Charles Stratton requested that all TIM Team members make sure they are receiving the District One Weekly Road Watch Reports and to contact him if there were any concerns.

# Active Construction:

No updated information was provided by the TIM Team.

# **Completed Construction:**

No updated information was provided by the TIM Team.

# Anticipated Future Construction:

No updated information was provided by the TIM Team.

Additional construction information is available on the FDOT Road Watch website located at <u>http://www.dot.state.fl.us/publicinformationoffice/D1/news/newsreleases/deafult.shtm</u>.

# Future Meetings:

The next Collier-Lee-Charlotte County TIM Team will be held on February 13, 2019 at 9:30 AM at the SWIFT SunGuide Center, 10041 Daniels Parkway, Fort Myers, Florida 33913.

As always, please continue to visit the TIM Team website for updates, and also help support our TIM Team by providing the TIM Team website to others that may be interested in joining our team! http://www.swfltim.org/

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Brandy Boccuti, Metric Engineering, Inc. at (407) 644.1898 or via email at <u>bboccuti@metriceng.com</u>