



Collier – Lee - Charlotte Traffic Incident Management Team

*October 12, 2016
Meeting Minutes*

Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Bud Gruber	Bald Eagle Towing	Rusty Godette	Greater Naples Fire District
Chris Williams	FDOT	Robert Ortiz	Road Ranger
Rory Howe	Parsons	Carlton McVeigh	D1 RTMC
Brandy Boccuti	Metric Engineering, Inc.	Dan Leger	Cape Coral PD
Charles Stratton	Metric Engineering, Inc.	Patrick Taylor	Cape Coral PD
Brian Raimondo	Lee County MPO	Nancy Crocker	Lee Co. School District
Robbie Brown	FDOT	Alex Shahrolch	FLDEP
Lina Cerquera	FDEP	Joseph Bowers	FHP
Scott Robbins	FDOT/HNTB	Vincent Lee	Lucent Group D1 TMC
Gene Rodgers	S. Trail Fire District	Bob Diezi	Road Ranger
Brandy Otero	MPO	Richard Fimbel	DBI Services
Dennis Petracca	Lee County Sheriff's Office	Bill Floyd	Lee Co. Emergency Management
Chris Spears	G & C Auto Towing	Raul Corbo	Anchor Towing
David Tarquino	S&T Towing of SW FLA, Inc.	Jay Anderson	Wanted Dead or Alive Towing
Mark Taylor	A- Budget Towing	Lakshmi Gurram	Charlotte Co. Punta Gorda MPO
Glenn Hedgeroth	FHP/FMRCC	William Harrison	FHP
Jessica Milliken	FHP	Benjamin Loeser	FDOT
Chris Oncken	Wanted Dead or Alive Towing	Rick McClaskey	S. Trail Towing

Call to Order: The Collier-Lee-Charlotte TIM Team meeting was held on Wednesday, August 10, 2016 at 9:30 AM at SWIFT SunGuide Center, 10041 Daniels Parkway, Fort Myers, Florida 33913. Chris Williams, Charles Stratton and Rory Howe facilitated the meeting.

Introductions:

Team members introduced themselves and the agencies they represent.

Agency News:

Road Rangers

Bob Diezi informed the team that he is retiring from the Road Rangers. The new contact that will be replacing Mr. Diezi is Robert Ortiz. Mr. Diezi has been a very active TIM team member and a champion for first responders.

Towing and Wrecker News

No agency news

Other Agency News

The Lee County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) discussed the team was informed that the Lee County MPO board meeting takes place the 3rd Friday of every month. The TIM team facilitators were added to the October 21st agenda to introduce themselves to the board and to inform them about the importance of the Traffic Incident Management Teams. An update about the meeting will be discussed at the next TIM team meeting.

Update on TIM Initiatives:

National/State/Regional

Rory Howe presented to the team about struck-by incidents and scene safety for first responders that respond to traffic incidents.

Why Responder Safety Comes First

- While in route:
 - ✓ Wear safety apparel prior to arrival / exit
 - ✓ Plan initial response / scene safety / safe exit

Why Situational Awareness Is Key

- When responding:
 - ✓ Confirm geographical location
 - ✓ Provide analysis of current situation
 - ✓ Detail actions required to mitigate the situation
 - ✓ Request resources required to support those actions
- As changes happen, update frequently:
 - ✓ Weather conditions change quickly
 - ✓ Lightning strikes twice
 - ✓ Ice, Hydroplaning, fog and low visibility
 - ✓ Blind curves, hills and obstructions
 - ✓ Path of initial crash is highly likely to reoccur
- The motorist's perspective:
 - ✓ Night and low volumes, motorists drive faster and do not expect to be stopped
 - ✓ Traffic control should meet MUTCD / FHWA SHRP2 training
 - ✓ Adjust for weather / other issues
 - ✓ Adjust lighting / TTC for negative effects

Responder Safety First

- No sudden movements
- Never turn your back on traffic
- Maintain eye contact with motorists
- Provide clear and concise directions
- Do not stand in traffic
- Develop an escape plan
- A healthy responder is a happy responder
 - ✓ 25% of Fire Fighter deaths due to vehicle strikes and traffic collisions

- ✓ More Law Enforcement officers injured by vehicle strikes than all other incidents (136 killed; '04-'13)

To learn more and to view the full presentation, please visit our TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>

Charles Stratton informed the team about the 2016 National Teen Driver Safety Week. The campaign took place October 16-22, 2016. National Teen Driver Safety Week is a time designated by Congress each year to raise awareness of teen driver safety topics and to encourage safe teen driver and passenger behavior.

This Year's Campaign Theme is "5 to Drive"

- No cell phone use or texting while driving,
- No extra passengers,
- No speeding,
- No alcohol, and
- No driving or riding without a seat belt.

Charles Stratton informed the team about the International Association of Chiefs of Police Annual Conference (IACP) which took place October 15-18, 2016. Every year, the IACP Annual Conference and Exposition supplies you and your department with powerful advantages, bringing together an unmatched educational program, renowned keynote speakers, community-building special events and the largest collection of tactical equipment and technology solutions available for law enforcement.

The Chiefs of Police Annual Conference Schedule:

- ACP 2016 San Diego, CA: October 15 - 18, 2016
- IACP 2017 Philadelphia, PA: October 21 - 24, 2017
- IACP 2018 Orlando, FL: October 6-9, 2018
- IACP 2019 Chicago, IL: October 26-29, 2019

To learn more about the event and to register for next year which will be in Orlando, Florida, please visit the following website: <http://www.theiacp.org>

Chris Williams and Charles Stratton spoke to the team about the National Traffic Incident Management Awareness Week which will take place November 13-18, 2016. This is the first year that this event will take place and ideas to help promote the event was requested from the TIM members.

The goal of this week will be to raise awareness about the dangers emergency responders face on the roadway and to encourage drivers to be aware near incident scenes. The week will also be used to raise awareness among TIM professionals on the importance of being careful on the highway.

If you have any ideas for the event, please send to Chris Williams at Chris.Williams@dot.state.fl.us and/or (239) 225-1915.

Additionally, the TIM Network will shortly launch a webpage to help promote Traffic Incident Awareness Week. If you have web content such as a PSA video, or outreach materials that you would like to contribute, please email the link to Eric Rensel at erensel@qfnet.com.

Chris Williams informed the team that the Florida Department of Transportation has launched a new website at <http://fdot.gov/>

Chris Williams informed that the Florida 511 is rolling out a new Application, with further expansion into 2017. The new company that has taken over the application will have rights to the current application look and will incorporate more user friendly options. New to Florida 511 is Drive Mode. Users can enter Drive Mode to get a quick view of local incidents and traffic speeds. Then, they are able to enter their destination and receive up to three routes with travel times based on current traffic conditions. Drive Mode also provides to the driver audible alerts of incidents occurring along their route.

Also, the team was informed that they are currently working on an expansion to the 511 Florida application to add the use of emergency evacuations, which would allow motorist to log onto the app and see updated information such as fuel vendors that may be running low on fuel etc.

Florida 511 features include:

- Drive Mode with interactive traffic map
- Up to three door-to-door routes provided per destination
- Travel times
- Real-time traffic conditions, including crashes, construction and closures
- Easily connect to the mobile website
- Traffic cameras
- Links to other travel or transportation related agencies

The application is free and can be downloaded onto any smart device. To learn more, please visit the following website: <https://fl511.com/App>

Chris Williams informed the team that a board is currently evaluating the Florida Administrative Code 15B-9 which contains the wrecker qualifications. The wrecker's qualification code was originally created in 1994 and has been a concern of the wrecker's community, as it is very outdated in certain regulations/requirements.

Chris Williams spoke to the team about the topic of the "First Responder Appreciation" awards which was discussed at the last TIM meeting that took place August 9, 2016. The award would recognize first responders that go "above and beyond" their duty while responding to incidents on the local highways. The responders would be nominated by their local agencies and a board of local TIM members would be created that would vote on the nominations.

The team stated that they will propose agency members at the next TIM meeting that will be a part of the board committee that will vote on the first responder nominations.

Chris Williams informed the team on the 2016 America's Transportation Awards Competition. The America's Transportation Awards competition is presented by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), and co-sponsored by the AAA motor club and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

The competition recognizes projects completed by state transportation departments that improve travel safety, reduce roadway congestion and provide more travel options to consumers. Projects are entered under three categories: Quality of Life/Community Development, Best Use of Innovation and Under Budget and grouped into three sizes: small for projects costing less than

\$25 million, medium for those between \$26 million and \$199 million and large for those costing \$200 million or more.

To learn more, please visit the following website: <https://americatransportationawards.org/>

The following reports were reviewed with the team:

- 2015/2016 Road Ranger Comment Card Annual Report
- 2015/2016 Road Ranger Performance Measures Annual Report
- 2015/2016 Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) Annual Report

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

Charles Stratton and Chris Williams reviewed with the team the 2016 TIM Self-Assessment results.

Traffic Incident Management (TIM) programs continue to play a vital role in the safe and quick clearance of traffic incidents while providing a framework for reducing congestion and maximizing use of existing transportation infrastructure.

A critical component of capitalizing on the success of existing programs and aiding the development of new TIM programs is periodic evaluation of the components of successful multi-agency TIM programs. The TIM Self-Assessment was designed to provide an easy-to-use tool for measuring TIM program performance. The team will be using the 2016 TIM Self-Assessment results as a tool to help identify 3-4 specific areas from the results that the team can concentrate on as goals for the upcoming year.

Rory Howe reviewed with the team the following Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) Incident:

- 08/23/2016 – I-75 Northbound at Mile Marker 53 (333341)
- 09/25/2016 – I-75 Southbound at Mile Marker 53 (333555)

To view the incident SWIFT SunGuide Event Chronology report, please visit our TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>

Chris Williams spoke to the team about the topic of the “First Responder Appreciation” awards which was discussed at the last TIM meeting that took place August 10, 2016. The award would recognize first responders that go “above and beyond” their duty while responding to incidents on the local highways. The responders would be nominated by their local agencies and a board of local TIM members would be created that would vote on the nominations. The topic will be further discussed at upcoming meetings, as a foundation for the reward will be an ongoing topic.

Below is the list of TIM members that would be on the board to review the first responder nominations:

- Brian Raimondo, Lee County MPO
- Gene Roers, South Trail Fire District
- Jon Kulko, Cape Coral Police Department
- Richard Fimbel, DBI Services
- Bob Diezi, Road Ranger
- Scott Robbins, Traffic Management Center
- Bud Gruber, Bald Eagle Towing and Recovery
- *FHP will provide a representative from their agency*

FDOT Construction Update

Charles Stratton reminded the team that the District 1 Roadwatch construction report is available to all first responders. To view the weekly District 1 RoadWatch construction report, please visit the following website: <http://www.fdot.gov/info/D1/news/newsreleases/default.shtm>

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 <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/publicinformationoffice/D1/news/newsreleases/default.shtm>.

Future Meetings:

The next Collier-Lee-Charlotte County TIM Team will be held on December 14, 2016 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 Charles Stratton, Metric Engineering, Inc. at (407) 644.1898 or via email at cstratton@metriceng.com or Chris Williams, FDOT District 1 ITS Operations/ TIM TEAM Coordinator/ Road Ranger Program Project Manager at (239) 225.1915 or via email at Chris.Williams@dot.state.fl.us