



## Sarasota - Manatee Traffic Incident Management Team

*August 9, 2016  
Meeting Minutes*

### **Attendees:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Rory Howe	Parsons	Richard Fimbel	DBI Services
Brandy Boccuti	Metric Engineering	Timothy Raines	Manatee Co. EMS
Charles Stratton	Metric Engineering	Mark Crawford	S. Manatee Fire & Rescue
Chris Williams	FDOT	Ken Neiland	Professional Towing
Justin Merritt	FDOT	Mark Kawa	Professional Towing
Vincent Lee	FDOT/Lucent Group	Samuel Lutz	Sarasota Sheriff's Office
		Michael Williamson	Parish Fire Dept.
		Sherilyn Burris	Manatee Co. EM

**Call to Order:** The Sarasota-Manatee TIM Team meeting was held on Tuesday, August 9, 2016 at 1:30pm at the Manatee County Public Safety Center, 2101 47<sup>th</sup> Terrace East, Bradenton, FL 34203. Chris Williams, Charles Stratton, and Rory Howe 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

The Traffic Management Center (TMC) informed the team that they are currently fully staffed.

The DBI Services informed the team that they will be responsible for maintenance of the Skyway Bridge also.

The Sheriff's Office informed the team that they are participating in the National Stop on Red Campaign which is taking place the month of August. The campaign is sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration that aims to educate drivers about the dangers of red-light running and reduce the number and severity of crashes.

Additionally, the Sheriff's Office will also have DUI enforcement for the 2016 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Campaign. The campaign will take place from August 17th through Labor Day weekend.

### **Update on TIM Initiatives:**

#### **National/State/Regional**

Rory Howe presented to the team an update on the National Tim Responder Training Program (SHRP-2).

The Florida Highway Administration (FHWA) current goal is 20% of first responders to be trained in the National TIM Responder Training (SHRP-2). Currently, as of July 11, 2016 Florida is at 9.1%.

To help reach the 20% statewide goal the following points were made for Florida:

- Florida has a strong Traffic Incident Management network and active TIM teams throughout the state.
- Florida has a very large and diverse first responder network.
- District 1 can utilize best practices from around the state and from states throughout the U.S. to amplify training efforts.

Some of the challenges and solutions of the SHRP-2 training are as follows:

#### **Challenge:**

- Obtaining and maintaining leadership/executive level buy-in from all agencies, statewide and local, for TIM training efforts.

#### **Solutions:**

- Document and share both the qualitative and quantitative benefits of participating in the TIM training program.
- Identify opportunities to mandate or require TIM training both at the local and state level.
- Include the public in outreach and awareness efforts.
- Integrate the principles of the TIM training into agency policies, procedures, and/or guidelines.

#### **Challenge:**

- Lack of ownership for TIM training efforts.

#### **Solutions:**

- Establish a multidiscipline TIM training committee, or at a minimum, identify an individual that will be responsible for overseeing the TIM training program in Florida.
- Develop a TIM training succession plan.
- Review and update Florida's TIM Training Implementation Plan.
- Engage the local metropolitan planning commission and/or Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP).

Lastly, additional ideas that were provided to help Florida meet the 20% goals were:

- More train-the-trainer sessions.
- Cross-border train-the-trainer sessions with other states/region.
- Centralize entry of sessions into SharePoint site.
- Trainer commitment form.
- Training academy accreditation.

- “Trainer of the Month” award.
- Identify EMS trainers.
- Include communication/ public affairs personnel in training to raise awareness.

An action item was given to the team in regards to ideas to help bring the SHRP-2 training to the local agencies.

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 Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Campaign. The campaign will take place from August 17<sup>th</sup> through Labor Day weekend. Law enforcement nationwide will be joining the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in the high-visibility Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over crackdown campaign.

- Approximately one-third of all traffic crash fatalities in the United States involve drunk drivers (with blood alcohol concentrations [BACs] of .08 or higher). In 2013, there were 10,076 people killed in these preventable crashes.
- On Labor Day weekend in 2013, there were 424 crash fatalities nationwide. Almost half (48%) of those fatal crashes involved drivers who had been drinking (.01+ BAC); 38 percent involved drivers who were drunk (.08+ BAC); and more than a fourth (27%) involved drivers who were driving with a BAC almost twice the illegal per se limit (.15+ BAC).
- In 2013, approximately 1 in 5 child (12 and younger) passenger deaths were in drunk-driving crashes. Seventy-one percent of the time, it was the child’s own driver who was drunk.

Charles Stratton informed the team about the Governors Highway Safety Association Annual Meeting which will take place August 27-31, 2016. Crossroads: The Intersection of Technology and Driver Behavior is the theme for the 2016 GHSA Annual Meeting. General Sessions will address how technological innovations can impact the way we drive now and in the future. To learn more about the event, please visit the following website:

<http://www.ghsa.org/html/meetings/annual/2016/index.html>

The July 2016 SWIFT SunGuide Reports was reviewed with the team. To view the full report, please visit our TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>

Charles Stratton reviewed with the team the 2015-2016 Statewide Road Ranger Survey for Incident Responders. The survey was designed to gather data from those who work and communicate with the Road Rangers on a regular basis.

The team was informed of the 2015-2016 Statewide Road Ranger Survey for Incident Responders results have been released. The survey was designed to gather data from those who work and communicate with the Road Rangers on a regular basis.

The survey included the following:

- Determine the incident responders’ opinion of the program.
- Compare results and customer satisfaction to last year’s survey.
- Solicit comments and suggestions to improve the program from the incident responder’s perspective.

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

Charles Stratton and Chris Williams spoke to the team about the Florida Statewide Traffic Incident Management Workshop that took place July 21-22, 2016. The Florida Statewide TIM Workshop included all Florida Department of Transportation Districts and the Florida's Turnpike Enterprise where TIM topics was discussed such as activities, accomplishments, and goals.

Some of the specific topics discussed at the meeting where:

- Cost to Benefit Ratio Tool for TIM.
- Updating the [FloridaTIM.com](http://FloridaTIM.com) website.
- Road Ranger Warrant Recommendation Software being created.
- Providing a refresher on the Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) Program.
- Success in district TIM programs and future enhancements.
- Reinvigorating Florida's TIM training program.
- Next level TIM performance measures.
- Florida Highway Administration (FHWA) current goal of 20% of first responders to be trained in the National TIM Responder Training (SHRP-2). Currently, as of July 11, 2016 Florida is at 9.1%.
- Attendees at the statewide meeting was informed that a committee is being formed to evaluate the Florida Administrative Code 15B-9 which is 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 asked the team, per the Traffic Incident Management FHWA self-assessments evaluations, whether we need to include special event updates to the team? The special events would be any type of event that may affect local traffic and planning may be needed. The team stated that there were local events that the TIM teams could benefit from in advance planning.

Additionally, an action item was given to the team to help them become more active in the local planning of events in the area that may affect the local roadways. All agencies were requested to send any event information and/or local planning committee information to Chris Williams.

Chris Williams also requested from the team to inform them of any major level 3 or Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) incidents in the Sarasota-Manatee that an after action review of the incident would be beneficial.

Chris Williams informed the team 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.

Chris Williams informed the team that a recent article stated that CEMEX USA is participating in the I-4 Ultimate Improvement Project, a 21-mile reconstruction of Central Florida's main interstate highway. This is the largest and most complex infrastructure project currently underway in the state of Florida. CEMEX is expected to supply more than 4,900 truckloads of reinforced ready-mix concrete pipe and more than 375,000 of the 620,000 cubic yards of ready-mix concrete required for this project, which will be shipped on trucks along I-4 and I-75, and may cause traffic delays.

Chris Williams spoke to the team about recognizing 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.

Charles Stratton reviewed with the team the following major Incidents:

- 06/09/2016 – I-75 Southbound at Exit 182/Sumter Blvd. (314690)
- 06/23/2016 – I-75 Northbound at Exit: 182/ Sumter Blvd (317087)
- 07/06/2016 – I-75 Northbound at Mile Marker 226 (319444)

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

### **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:***

The team was provided an update on the I-75/University Parkway DDI Construction project. The start date of the project was August 2015, and the estimated completion date is fall of 2017. Improvements being made as part of this project consist of constructing a diverging diamond interchange, adding an auxiliary lane on northbound and southbound I-75, constructing new bridges on I-75 over University Parkway, widening of University Parkway, widening of I-75 bridges over Errie Creek and Foley Creek, realignment of on-ramps and off-ramps at I-75/University Parkway, addition of ponds, drainage improvements, new lighting and signalization, construction of a noise wall on the west side of I-75, sidewalks, bike lanes, and pedestrian walkways. If you have any questions on the project, please contact Trudy Gerena, Senior Public Information Officer at 813-299-3579 and/or [trudy@valerin-group.com](mailto:trudy@valerin-group.com)

Please also visit <http://www.swflroads.com/i75/university/>, which provides up to date project information.

#### ***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 Sarasota-Manatee County TIM Team will be held on October 11, 2016 at 1:30 PM at the Manatee County Public Safety Center, 47th Terrace East 2101, Bradenton Florida, 34203.

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](mailto: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](mailto:Chris.Williams@dot.state.fl.us)