



Sarasota - Manatee Traffic Incident Management Team

*October 11, 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	Michael Williamson	Parish Fire Dept.
Justin Merritt	FDOT	Sherilyn Burriss	Manatee Co. EM
Scott Robbins	FDOT/HNTB	Jose Toledo	DBI Services
Robert Ortiz	Road Rangers	Bob Diezi	Road Rangers
		John Donovan	FHP

Call to Order: The Sarasota-Manatee TIM Team meeting was held on Tuesday, October 11, 2016, 2016 at 1:30pm at the Manatee County Public Safety Center, 2101 47th 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

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 updates

Other Agency News

The Traffic Management Center (TMC) informed the team that they have recently hired on new staff. They hired a full time employee at the Fort Myers location and two part time employees at the Sarasota location.

Manatee County Emergency Management informed the team that with the recent hurricane Mathew, that their agency would like to participate in the TIM meeting and help open information exchange channels among the first responders for future emergency management situations.

Manatee County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) reminded the team to please follow the detour on the upper Manatee River Road, even during emergency situations. They recently had emergency trucks going Northbound through the detour which does not allow enough space for normal traffic to get through.

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@gfnet.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. The team was informed that the self-assessment results will be used to identify 3-4 areas that the team will concentrate on as goals for the upcoming year.

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 (TIM SA) was designed to provide an easy-to-use tool for measuring TIM program performance.

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

- 09/23/2016 – I-75 Southbound at 182 Sumter Blvd. (333341)

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

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:

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

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 December 13, 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 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