



**Polk County
Traffic Incident Management Team**

July 14, 2016

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Chris Williams	FDOT	Rick Grube	City of Lakeland
Charles Stratton	Metric Engineering	Jamie Fitzgerald	Jorgensen
Brandy Boccuti	Metric Engineering	Benjamin Loeser	FDOT
Rory Howe	Parsons	Jennifer Perry	FDOT
Romona Burke	FDOT	Ben Skidmore	SWS Enviro.
Cathie McKenzie	FTE	Racheal Healy	SWS Enviro.
Michael Bissett	Polk Co. Sheriff	Todd Riley	Stepp's Towing
Harry Whitney	Road Ranger	Ricky Thomas	ICA
Kristina Quenneville	FHP	Sandra Mancil	FDOT
Butch VanDyken	Stepp's	Lavenia Toole	FDOT
Ken Neiland	Professional Towing	Willie Smith	FDOT
		Eddy Gasset	FDOT

Call to Order: The Polk TIM Team meeting was held on Thursday, July 14, 2016 at 10:00 AM at the Polk County Sheriff's Office Complex, Procap Room, and 1891 Jim Keene Boulevard, Winter Haven, FL 33880. Chris Williams, Charles Stratton, and Rory Howe facilitated the meeting.

Introductions: Team members introduced themselves and the agencies they represent.

Additionally, Christopher (Chris) Williams was introduced as the new District 1 ITS Operations/TIM Team Coordinator/Road Ranger Program Project Manager. Mr. Williams brings with him a strong background and a wealth of knowledge in the service community, including experience as both a law enforcement officer and a firefighter. We look forward to Mr. Williams' leadership and contribution to the District One TIM Teams.

Agency News:

Road Rangers

Harry Whitney discussed his concerns in regards to vendors that are relieving Road Rangers from an incident are not carrying enough equipment to properly set up maintenance of traffic (MOT). The Road Rangers are having to keep their equipment on the incident site to help cover the area properly. FDOT/TMC requested that they be informed of any similar incidents in the future and they will help ensure everyone is properly following the requirements.

The team also spoke about how there have been several recent incidents involving Road Rangers. One of the recent incidents involved several vehicles on the Howard Frankland Bridge on May 26, 2016 which left a Road Ranger in critical condition. To view the news video that was provided to the team on the incident, please click on the following link:

<http://www.fox13news.com/news/local-news/145344555-story>

Towing and Wrecker News

The towing agency discussed with the team the need to automatically activate Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) when an incident involves a tractor-trailer fire, in order to help clear the incidents quicker and under the 90 minute Open Road Policy.

Additionally, both Charles Stratton and Chris Williams informed the team that they are looking to bring training to the District One TIM team first responders. The training would include protocols for RISC such as; who has the authority to activate RISC, when guidelines qualify for RISC, etc. Further information on the training will be provide to the team as more details are available.

Other Agency News

Romona Burke, FDOT District 7, informed the team that a new Road Ranger zone was added along Interstate 4 to Polk County which includes the County Line to Exit 10 Mango Road. The Road Ranger hours will be from 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Additionally, the team discussed (2) recent RISC incidents and shared pictures of the incident with the team. The first event occurred on May 1, 2016 and involved a tractor-trailer carrying cases of cranberry juice which caught on fire. The incident clearance time was 175 minutes. The second event involved an overturned tractor-trailer. The clearance time was 46 minutes, which did meet the open roads policy of under 90 minutes.

Chris Williams addressed to the team and asked if there were any new hires within their agencies since January 2008.

Update on TIM Initiatives:

National/State/Regional

Rory Howe presented to the team Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). On July 6, 2012, President Obama signed into law P.L. 112-141, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). MAP-21 provides needed funds and represents a milestone for the U.S. economy:

- The first multi-year transportation authorization enacted since 2005
- Funds surface transportation programs at over \$105 billion for fiscal years (FY) 2013 and 2014
- Transforms the framework for investments to guide the growth and development of the country's vital transportation infrastructure.

Some example details that are included in MAP-21 are as follows:

FHWA's Performance Measures & Standards/Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)/DOT's – 4/12/2016

- Track number of fatalities
- Rate of fatalities per VMT
- Number of serious crash injuries
- Rate of serious injuries per VMT
- Number of non-motorized fatal and serious injuries (Bicycles, etc.)

Push for Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) to include the following:

- Emergency response
- Incident management
- Weather response
- Tolls
- Congestion management
- Carrying out support activities
- TIM Teams
- “The provision of support for maintaining relationships with all responders!”
- Self-assessments (FHWA Performance measures)
- 5.9 GHz Vehicle to Vehicle and Vehicle to Infrastructure within 3 years

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 National Stop on Red Week Campaign. The campaign will take place August 7-13, 2016.

- Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for children age 4 and the second leading cause of death for children age 3 and 5-14.
- In 2013, more than 697 people were killed and an estimated 127,000 were injured in crashes that involved red-light running.
- Motorists in urban areas are more likely to be injured in crashes involving red-light running than in any other type of crash.
- Red-light runners are more than three times as likely as other drivers to have multiple speeding convictions on their driver records.
- More than 36 percent of drivers continue to run red-lights and take risks, despite the fact that 55 percent of the participants said it is a very serious threat and 73 percent acknowledged that running red-lights is unacceptable.

Charles Stratton informed the team about the 22nd Annual IACP Training Conference on Drugs, Alcohol, and Impaired Driving. Conference will take place August 13-15, 2016. The IACP Drug Recognition Expert Section (DRE) Section has hosted this annual training conference since 1994. This training conference provides certified drug recognition experts, physicians, toxicologists, prosecutors, and other traffic safety professionals with a forum in which to share information, best practices and lessons learned in law enforcement drug recognition settings. Though the technology and practices have changed and are constantly evolving, the conference provides consistent training, professional development, and a national forum for drug recognition experts and others with a professional interest on a broad array of new and emerging issues.

The annual training conference features a mix of plenary sessions and concurrent workshops that are designed to keep attendees up to date on the latest practice and science of drug recognition. This year, topics will include the traffic safety implications of ending marijuana prohibition, the use of Oral Fluid Testing for Driving Under the Influence of Drugs, and improving Drug Recognition Experts (DRE) evaluation and report writing, among many others. Networking events enable conference attendees to meet new colleagues and establish a professional rapport that often extends well beyond the event. To learn more about the event, please visit the following website: <http://www.iacp.org/dreconference>

Charles Stratton informed the team about the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign that will be taking place August 17th through Labor Day weekend. Law enforcement nationwide will be joining the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in the high-visibility 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 Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Traffic Incident and Events Management Knowledge Management System (KMS) website. The KMS is a national repository of traffic incident management (TIM) resources, good practices, lessons learned, and other tools that are relevant to TIM practices for all disciplines.

FHWA believes that sharing information among TIM program planners and practitioners will yield stronger TIM programs at the local, regional, tribal and state levels. This will result in safer and quicker clearance of incidents, as well as improve motorist and responder safety.

Practitioners will find useful resources on such topics as:

- Guidance and Policy
- Quick Clearance Legislation
- Training and Outreach
- Agreements
- After Action Reviews (AARs)
- Traffic Management Center (TMC) Operations
- TIM Committee Formation and Sustainability

FHWA will rely on TIM program managers, committee members, and practitioners, either independently or through the National TIM Network, to collect and provide additional good practices, lessons learned, and other tools that will aid jurisdictions to implement strong, sustainable TIM programs in their localities. FHWA encourages TIM practitioners to submit resources to the KMS as part of their regular TIM operations.

It is important to note that FHWA's goal is to capture formal good practices, such as TIM Guidelines, policy documents, and memorandums of understanding, as well as informal good practices. Examples of informal good practices include: a success story realized from the Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP-2) TIM Responder Training; how a local police department helped improve motorists' awareness of their state's Move Over law; or how a metropolitan planning organization contributed to the success and sustainability of a region's TIM program. To capture these informal good practices, as they might not already be documented, practitioners can use the simple Lessons Learned template.

Ease of Use - Visitors have several easy options to search the KMS, such as by industry topic, state, or keyword. Visitors can also view the "Most Popular" and "Recently Added" resources. In addition, registered users can submit their own resources for inclusion in several simple steps. The KMS also has various user-friendly and interactive features, such as the option for registered users to comment on a resource or rate its usefulness, email the resource to a friend, or ask a question. Questions will be answered by the KMS administrators. To learn more and to access the database, please visit the following website:

<http://kms.timnetwork.org/index.php>

Charles Stratton informed the team that the 2016 Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) has been released. The ERG is revised every four years, and is available free to public safety agencies in all states and territories through designated state coordinators' offices. The 2016 version of the ERG includes general revisions, expanded sections, and added guide pages for absorbed gases. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is distributing approximately 1.7 million free copies of the guidebook to firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and law enforcement officers nationwide.

PHMSA partnered with the [National Library of Medicine](#) to provide free Smartphone versions of the ERG which is also part of its "[Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders](#)" that will be available later this year. Printed copies of the 2016 ERG will be available for sale to the general public through the U.S. Government Printing Office Bookstore at <http://bookstore.gpo.gov>

Charles Stratton spoke to the team about safety during termination phase of an incident. Termination is the final phase of response to a roadway incident, after major rescue and remediation operations have been completed. Although it seems as if the incident is "over," termination is actually a very dangerous time; remaining responders may be less protected, motorists may be frustrated by backups, and termination operations by nature require responders to be exposed on the roadway as they secure vehicles, pack up and stow equipment, and remove traffic control devices.

To learn more and to view a video on safety during termination phase of an incident, please visit <http://www.respondersafety.com> which is a free learning website for first responders.

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

Future Meetings:

The next Polk County TIM Team will be October 13, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Polk County Sheriff's Office Complex, Procap Room, and 1891 Jim Keene Boulevard, Winter Haven, FL 33880.

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