

**CHSP Impaired Driving  
Emphasis Area  
Virtual Meeting**  
Thursday, March 4, 2021



**Attendees:**

Sheila Cozzie, SOAR/Native American/Teens/ Motorcycle Traffic Safety Coordinator, State Highway Traffic Safety Section (SHTSS), MDT  
Thomas Danenhower, Risk Management Specialist, Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority (MMIA)  
Kevin Dusko, Impaired Driving Program Coordinator, SHTSS, MDT  
Kent Haab, Alcohol Beverage Control Division (ABCD), Department of Revenue (DOR)  
Mark Keeffe, Data Analyst, SHTSS- MDT  
Janet Kenny, SHTSS Supervisor, MDT  
Leah Mobley, Gallatin Co DUI Task Force Coordinator  
Chad Newman, Law Enforcement Liaison, SHTSS, MDT  
Beth Price Morrison, Prevention Program Manager, Alliance for Youth  
Barb Reiter, Jefferson Co DUI Task Force Coordinator  
Sgt Doug Samuelson, Drug Recognition expert (DRE)/ Traffic Safety Resource Officer, MHP  
Steve Schmidt, Drive Safe Missoula, Missoula Ci-County Health Department  
Beth Smalley, Forensic Science Division (FSD), Department of Justice (DOJ)  
David Jacobs, Grants Bureau Chief, Rail, Transit and Planning Division, MDT  
Dacia English, Alcohol Beverage Control Division (ABCD), Department of Revenue (DOR)  
Chad Parker, Assistant Attorney General, Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor  
Kimberly Koch, Addictive & Mental Disorder's Division, DPHHS

**Meeting Purpose:** Report and Track Progress

Kevin Dusko, chair of the Impaired Driving Emphasis Area team opened the virtual meeting with a welcome and self-introduction of participants. Participants provided individual updates as appropriate.

**Announcements** – As of March 1, 2021 there were 31 fatalities on Montana's roadways as compared to this time frame in 2020 with 16 fatalities.

Beth Smalley reported for the Forensic Science Division on a look they did at the number of THC tests performed at the lab, which is increasing from 2018-2020. Cases are increasing with THC and ethanol, as is the level of THC detected in DUI cases; more analysis is needed to determine if the age of users is shifting downward with those age 17-22. Discussion around the level of impairment with THC and ethanol creates the "additive effect" or the impairment is greater with both on board than each substance separately, which increases the risk of impairment.

**Old Business**

Reviewed the Impaired Driving Emphasis Area Work plan.

**Progress Updates**

**Strategy 1: Deterrence and Enforcement**

Chad Newman provided updates on the STEP and SETT Programs and upcoming St. Patrick's Day mobilization in Butte-Silver Bow and statewide. The NHTSA mini-grant Law Enforcement grant opportunity was also discussed.

Sergeant Doug Samuelson provided a law enforcement training update to include SFST, ARIDE and DRE. ARIDE training is being offered statewide to prepare officers for the Recreational Cannabis roll out.

**Strategy 2: Prevention and Education**

Beth Price Morrison provided an update on efforts to meet with Cascade County elected officials of city and county government on concerns with marijuana use and youth. Barb Reiter provided brief updates on prevention activities in Jefferson County with end of March High School Chat Days on marijuana. Steve Schmidt provided an update and discussed Drive Safe Missoula and the Tic Tok Challenge, which is in collaboration with Leah Mobley from Gallatin County and the university student health centers at both campuses. Steve is also looking for contributions for content for the blog for Drive Safe Missoula.

Kimberly Koch provided an update on Prevention Specialist activities. A list of Prevention Specialists and other resources can be found on [AMDD's website](#).

Sheila Cozzie provided an update on tribal activities and the impact of COVID on reservations.

### **Strategy 3: Criminal Justice System**

A brief discussion took place regarding 2021 Legislative Session. Suggestion to all is they go to the Montana State Legislature Website and check out DUI related bills. Chad Parker discussed a major clean up recodification DUI bill SB 356, is moving through the process. An "sealed" alcohol curb-side pickup bill is also moving through the process.

Dacia English discussed a Legislation that impact administrative sanction for compliance checks and a bill that aims to change time of sale of alcohol in off-site premises.

Kevin reported that DUI reinstatement fees which MDT distributes 50% back to the counties with an approved DUI Task Force on a quarterly basis, are down significantly.

Kent Haab reported that alcohol tax revenue on the other hand is up significantly.

Chad Parker discusses the training provided with advanced court room and reaching out to the courts of limited jurisdiction and prosecutors.

### **Strategy 4: Communication Program**

Regarding media messaging - new concepts for safety messaging are being reviewed with potential to move away from punishments with consideration of the negative impacts of psychological reactance to identify positive changes. NHTSA also covers alcohol use and sober drivers year-round with messaging.

### **Strategy 5 - Alcohol and Other Drug Misuse: Screening, Assessment, Treatment and Rehabilitation**

No report out.

### **Strategy 6- Program Evaluation and Data**

Crash Data was discussed at the beginning of the meeting. Kevin requested DUI petition/conviction information from the Court Administrator's Office. No data has been made available yet. Kevin/Mark will be meeting with the Montana Board of Crime Control in April to begin updating the DUI citation data.

### **Legislative Session 2021**

This discussion was covered under Strategy 3.

### **Agenda Items –Topics**

Members were asked to send potential agenda topics to Kevin for the next meeting.

### **Next Meeting**

First Thursday of the month @ 10 a.m. – **May 6<sup>th</sup>**.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

### **Reference: Impaired Driving Emphasis Area Workplan**

[https://www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero/docs/chsp/2020\\_SEP\\_ID\\_EA\\_Workplan\\_Final.pdf](https://www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero/docs/chsp/2020_SEP_ID_EA_Workplan_Final.pdf)