

# CHSP Impaired Driving Emphasis Area Virtual Meeting

Thursday, February 2, 2022



## Attendees:

Alyssa Johnson, Trauma Systems Manager, EMS & Trauma Systems, Department of Public Health & Human Services (DPHHS)  
Barb Reiter, Jefferson County DUI Task Force Coordinator  
Chief Dustin Lensing, Belgrade Police Department  
Dacia English, ABCD Outreach & Education Coordinator, Department of Revenue (DOR)  
David Jacobs, Grants Bureau Chief, Rail, Transit & Planning Division, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT)  
Dwight Nelson, Traffic Education Director, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)  
Felisha Koch, Driver's License Exam/ Non-Commercial Compliance, Motor Vehicle Division(MVD)-Department of Justice (DOJ)  
Janet Kenny, State Highway Traffic Safety Section (SHTSS Supervisor), MDT  
John Westerhold, NHTSA Region 10 Program Manager  
Judge Mary Jane Knisely, Judicial Outreach Liaison, 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court, Yellowstone Co.  
Kent Haab, Alcohol Beverage Control Division, DOR  
Kevin Dusko, Impaired Driving Program Coordinator, SHTSS, MDT  
Kimberly Koch, Prevention Section, Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities Division, DPHHS  
Leah Mobley, Gallatin County DUI Task Force Coordinator  
Lonni Starcevic, PFS Grant Manager, Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities Division, DPHHS  
Maureen Ward, Injury Prevention, DPHHS  
Pam Langve-Davis, Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan (CHSP) Manager, MDT  
Sgt Doug Samuelson, Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Trainer / Traffic Safety Resource Officer, Montana Highway Patrol (MHP)  
Sgt Mike Hebert, Traffic Section, Missoula Police Department  
Steve Schmidt, Drive Safe Missoula, Missoula Ci-County Health Department  
Samantha Klem, STEER/ DUI Coordinator  
Trooper Ryan Janes, MHP

## Meeting purpose to report and track progress

### Strategy 1: Deterrence and Enforcement

S1.1 Continue to support Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) and Strategic Enforcement Traffic Team (SETT) High Visibility Enforcement (HVE) efforts.

- Eight mini-grants were active during FY2020 - There was a total of 595 hours worked and 518 total citations issued. Seat Belt citations = 83, child restraint citations = 5 SETT - MHP 2,180 hours, 5,385 citations and warnings; 417 seat belt, 26 child restraint, 23 deployments, 3+ mobilization periods: Holiday, St. Patrick, 4th of July, Labor Day. Source FFY2020 Annual Report - HSP.

S1.2 Continue to support Tribal law enforcement Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) High Visibility Enforcement (HVE) efforts.

- FY2021 annual report will be provided early 2022.

S1.3 Continue to support the Law Enforcement Liaison program

- A contract for Federal Fiscal Year 2022 was executed with Clark Consulting. Objectives within the program are: 1) To provide outreach and education to law enforcement agencies regarding high visibility enforcement, mobilization timeframes, and enforcement of impaired driving and occupant protection laws. 2) To meet with municipal and county law enforcement managers in Northeastern and Southeastern Montana during the FFY 2022. This will be done to solicit participation in the STEP or Law Enforcement Mini-Grants. This will include all counties east of (and including) Park, Meagher, Judith Basin, Chouteau and Liberty Counties.

#### S1.4 Continue to support and promote Law Enforcement Mini-Grant Program

Funding has been budgeted to support the Law Enforcement Mini-Grant Concept. This will fund up to ten mini-grants to smaller jurisdictions to provide high-visibility enforcement during special events where there is increased alcohol use and highway safety risk.

- Status: FFY 2022: Law Enforcement Mini-Grant funding available.

#### S1.5 Continue to support and maintain the Traffic Safety Resource Officer (TSRO)

- Status: Training continues with DRE Training coming from NHTSA funding thru Intergraded Criminal Apprehension Program (ICAP) which must be used by May. Currently 59 certified DRE and a few up for recertification - should be at 63. Received funding for 15 more. Need more DREs in eastern MT, Great Falls, and rural areas. Shout out from NHTSA regional law enforcement Liaison to Yellowstone Co Courts & Sgt Doug Samuelson for DRE training.

#### S1.6 Sustain and support DUI Police Traffic Safety Pilot Program

- MDT is supporting 60% of funding for the Helena Pilot Project in FFY22. In FFY24, the funding will transition to a 50% support. The FFY21 numbers are the latest statistic available. During the review of FFY23 funding requests, a comparison of DUI's will be made over the life of this pilot project.

### **Strategy 2: Prevention and Education**

S2.1 Support activities that include Prevention Specialist community outreach and education events and evidenced-based programs

- BHDD has received approval to begin work on a youth prevention media campaign focusing on marijuana. Decreasing substance abuse among the general population (especially youth) can have a positive impact on reducing roadway fatalities and serious injuries. Impaired Driving related fatalities and serious injuries occur when substances are abused. Preventing substance abuse is a core behavioral health prevention strategy to increase highway safety.
- Developed a Prevention Specialist map  
<https://dphhs.mt.gov/AMDD/substanceabuse/PreventionRegionalInfo>

S2.2. Support Injury Prevention and Trauma Coordinators in local-area hospitals with community outreach and education events and programs.

- Status: Transportation Safety forums are being planned. Working towards re-engaging injury prevention coalition.

S2.3 Sustain and expand local DUI Task Forces

- State Fiscal Year there are 35 approved representing 38 Counties. County DUITF Plans are due to MDT by June 1st of every year.

S2.4 Sustain and support Northern Tribes Tribal DUI Task Force

- Status: Northern Tribes DUI TF January meeting canceled due to COVID restrictions. Meeting to be rescheduled. Impaired driving campaign is scheduled for summer months and updating with members of Task Force.

S2.5 Sustain and grow the Teen Traffic Safety Program focusing on impaired driving

- Status: Several FCCLA groups are currently working on traffic safety projects at this time. Final reports are due in March.

#### S2.6 Sustain and grow the Safe On All Roads - SOAR - Tribal community traffic safety program

- Status: SOAR coordinators were awarded the 2022 NHTSA Public Service Awards which will be presented at LifeSavers. A sports campaign "Live to Play Another Day" will be implemented and launched in mid-February.

#### S2.7 Sustain and support efforts to reduce the over-service of alcohol and preventing underage drinking and driving by supporting mandatory alcohol sales and service training.

- Status: Missoula Ci-County Health Dept is promoting Think Twice straw breathalyzers. Gallatin & Park Co are using at events. Expanding to L&C Co. Outreach to stadium beer gardens on opportunity to use straws. Think Twice live events have been very successful in one-on-one conversations about impairment. Also working on impaired driving & legalized marijuana information with the possibility of billboard placement. <https://www.drivesafemissoula.com/think-twice>

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

#### S3.1 Support stronger impaired driving laws.

DUI re-codification resulted in chapter assignment of 61.8.10 Driving Under Influence of Alcohol or Drugs, effective January 2022.

- Next Step: Will be to update resource documents with code reference. Chair to form workgroup to help with code reference.

#### S3.2 Continue to support implementation and expansion of the Statewide 24/7 Sobriety and Drug Monitoring Program and other DUI Offender monitoring programs.

- There are currently 28 Counties participating in either twice daily testing and/or testing through remote testing (SCRAM, Sober Link, etc.).

#### S3.3 Sustain and support the Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor (TSRP)

- Status: This position has been vacant but has recently been hired through the DOJ and will begin in March.

#### S3.4 Sustain and support the Judicial Outreach Liaison (JOL)

- State traffic safety training and educations continues.

#### S3.5 Support increase of crime lab resources to improve process of DUI test samples.

- The Forensic Science Division continues to evaluate needs, especially as Recreational Marijuana is rolled out.

#### S3.6 Continue to sustain and expand DUI Courts and Treatment Court Training for DUI Offenders

- There are currently 45 Treatment Courts in Montana. Those include family drug courts, Adult Drug Courts, Juvenile Drug Courts, Co-Occurring Courts, DUI Courts, Tribal Courts, and veteran courts. Seven of those are dedicated DUI Courts, 5 of which received funding from MDT to provide services and monitoring to repeat DUI Offenders.

#### S3.7 Continue to support and expand Tribal DUI Courts

- Tribal courts are included in the roll up of treatment courts.

#### S3.8 Support license sanctions for DUI Offenders following (MCA 61-5-205, 61-5-208).

- Now referenced as MCA 61.8.10 Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol & Drugs, Effective January 1, 2022. Future update anticipated.

S3.9 Continue to support alcohol breath testing by Motor Carrier Services (MCS) officers with reasonable suspicion or other competent evidence that a CDL operator may be driving impaired.

Montana's commercial motor vehicle (CMV) enforcement is funded by the MCSAP grant. MCS officers conduct inspections utilizing NETS to verify driver Credentials, CDL classification, for vehicle driven, alcohol usage, and driver and vehicle out-of-service status among other responsibilities.

- 2021: 24 drug/ 43 alcohol citations.

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

S4.1 Research underlying beliefs and behaviors of high-risk groups to better understand their traffic safety behaviors regarding impaired driving.

- No status update.

S4.2 Participate, and support of National Mobilization Media Campaigns aimed at preventing impaired driving.

- No status update.

S4.3 Monitor the impact of marijuana legalization on roadway crashes and countermeasures in Montana and peer states.

- No status update.

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

S5.1 Support ACT (Assessment, Course and Treatment) for DUI Offenders

- No status update.

S5.2 Expand Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) in healthcare and into other settings throughout Montana.

- No status update.

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

S6.1 Support a comprehensive picture of impaired driving data, which may include, but is not limited to: Crash, Citation, Toxicology, Conviction, Motor Vehicle and DUI Offender monitoring data.

- HJ 31 was passed during the 2021 Legislative Session. HJ 31 is an Interim Study of Criminal Justice System data in Montana. This study is broad and more than just impaired driving data but should shed light opportunities and challenges in criminal justice data alignment in Montana.

**Next Meeting-** April 6<sup>th</sup>@ 10 am

**Adjourned** at 11:55 am by Kevin Dusko