Dallas Traffic Safety Coalition

Call to order

A meeting of Dallas Traffic Safety Coalition was held at Grand Prairie Public Safety Building, 1525 Arkansas Ln., Grand Prairie, TX 75052 on March 7, 2017, at 10:10 am.

Attendees

Attendees included:

- Johnny Nance Mesquite Police Department
- Lewis Remington Irving Police Department
- Patricia Gaffney TTSDC/NSC
- Brad Leonard Grand Prairie Police Department
- Melanie Batdorf Collin County District Attorney’s Office
- Robert White TXDOT
- Bernadine Moore TXDOT
- Rebecca Cantu-Aguilar Mothers Against Drunk Driving
- Erin Garza Smart Start
- Mary McCoy IPC
- Judge Laura Anderson Irving Municipal Courts
- Mark Hall Garland Police Department
- Mike Aguirre Garland Police Department
- Eric Hansen Grand Prairie Police Department
- Agapito Chavez Drug Prevention
- Dan Worley Baylor Scott & White
- Kameron Lewellen Irving HR
- Charolette Davis Nationwide
- Lomie Lynn NSC
- Lisa Robinson NSC-ODC
- Kevin Cox Grand Prairie Police Department

Meeting began at 10:10 a.m.

Welcome, introduction of coalition members and sign-in sheet was completed.

Approval of minutes

Dallas Traffic Safety Coalition minutes from December 06, 2016 were approved.
Meeting Notes

Speaker: Mrs. Lisa Robinson works with the National Safety Council and they have a program called Our Driving Concern which provides free training to employers. Mrs. Robinson provided an overview of the program, why they work with employers, why the program is important and beneficial.

Our Driving Concern program is used as a tool to train and support employers, risk managers, human resource officers, and safety leaders to go out and work with all employees within the company to help change driver behavior and help reduce deaths on our roadways. Because 80% of the population are employed or live with an employer, that population should not be overlooked.

The roadway is to be seen as an extension of the workplace; transportation is the leading on the job cause for occupational fatalities. Data has shown that those who do not drive as a primary part of their job, die at a higher rate rather than the person who drives all the time. There is also data that indicates that the “seasoned” (older) drivers tend to get into more crashes than younger drivers due to their complacency. It should also be noted that there is data stating middle age men driving pickup trucks in Texas drive without their seatbelts on. This is a big problem to employers because it costs them money if their employees are involved in a crash whether they are on or off the job.

Changing a person’s driving behavior needs to be done on the job and off the job. One should change behavior so it can be constant; in doing so, there are less fatalities on the road way and our community will become safer. Looking at off the job behavior impacts the employer significantly in fringe benefits. Employers care when they realize that 81% of fringe costs are a result to off the job behaviors. Texas Employers spend $3.5 Billion every year as a result of on and off the job traffic injuries and fatalities. It is also known that if employers begin to run low on money, one of the first place they cut their funding is in their safety programs.

We know that driver behavior has an effect on speeding, distracted driving, drunk driving and not wearing a seatbelt. A fatal crash is 10 times more costly on average and a non-fatal injury, which is 10 times more costly on average than a property damage only crash.

Employers are also informed that drowsy driving is becoming more of an issue. According to a survey conducted by the CDC- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 in 25 adult drivers reported to falling asleep while driving. Drowsy driving is just as bad as impaired driving so it is really important to educate employers on that issue.

AAA reported that 87% of drivers have engaged in at least one risky behavior while behind the wheel. Some risky behaviors are talking on their mobile phone while driving; 38% of Texas drivers admitted to talking on their cell phone and 21% said they send or read texts messages while driving. The only thing a driver should be doing is driving when he/she is behind the wheel.

Employers need to think outside the box on how to educate their employees on safe driver behaviors and should implement safe driver policies at their company. Once a company has good policies in place, they need to enforce those safe driver policies to reduce the number and cost of crashes which makes the roads safer for all.

You may contact Lisa at Lisa.Robinson@nsc.org or 512.466.7383 for further information.
2018 Grant Update:

The 2018 grant update was provided by Bernadine Moore and Robert White with TXDOT.

- The proposal process is different as it removes the competitive aspect of the proposal process.
- Negotiations for the general grants are currently in process as they have already been scored.
- April 13th is the deadline for the 2018 Step Grant proposal negotiations.
- 2018 Grant Proposals will have signature changes.
- Law enforcement agencies must work the 5 required Wave periods.
  (Thanksgiving, Christmas/New Year’s, Spring Break, Memorial Day, and Labor Day.)

Member Spotlight

- Melanie with Collin County DA’s Office- Collin County implements DWI no refusal weekends (Fri and Sat.) Because of the Blood warrants there is a 95% to 98 % conviction rate.
- Robert with TXDOT- mentioned that Dallas County will be submitting a grant to follow Collin County’s proposal and it has Judge Johnson’s support.
- Charolette with Nationwide- helping support MADD’s mission
- Judge Anderson with the City of Irving- The City of Irving received an award from the National Safety Council for their Traffic Safety and will also receive an award from Texas Municipal Courts Education Center at the end of the month for their outreach.
- Kameron with the City of Irving HR - Will be doubling their instructors for defensive driving class
- Dan with the RED Program – will be at conducting their RED Program at Methodist Dallas Medical Center on March 18th and will be at Presbyterian Plano on March 25th.
- Grand Prairie PD - their department has moved into the electronic system for STEP to process all necessary paperwork.
- MADD - discussed Dallas County Law Enforcement Nominations and the Walk Like MADD event on April 29th in Collin County.
- Erin with Smart Start –Erin works with the monitoring authorities such as probation and parole officers, judges and courts to provide support for people that are ordered to have an ignition interlock. Smart Start is looking into putting interlocks on commercial vehicles. Erin encourages members to call her if they need further information about their ignition interlock devices.
- Agapito with Drug Prevention- discussed Powdered Alcohol and the Drug Take Back on April 29th.
- Garland PD- Not electronic yet, but will be by 2018.
- Trish with Texas Teens Safe Driving Coalition – mentioned that the Distracted Driving Bill was not going to pass this legislative session. She also mentioned that there several coalition members that are participating in their sticker campaign. This year, the number of sticker requests was increased from 60,000 to 135,000. There are 3 sticker designs that have messaging regarding teen speeding, teen distraction, and lack of seatbelt use among teens. Posters of the same messaging will also be available to be placed in fast food locations and in pediatrician’s offices.
Open Discussion:

Robert White and Bernadine Moore, were judges in the poster and video contest for Teens in the Driver Seat. Robert would like to ask the Technology School in Frisco, who often participates in the contest, to design our Coalition’s logo. None of the coalition members objected to this idea.

Robert also mentioned that The Dodge Ball Truck will be at the St. Patrick’s Day Parade at 5646 Milton Street in Dallas.

TXDOT also reported that there will be on-site grant monitoring starting in late March.

Future Meetings

Next meeting will be held on June 6th, 2017 at the Plano Police Department. Guest speaker will be Paige Ericson-Graber, Assistant Transportation Researcher Center for Transportation Safety, with Texas A&M Transportation Institute.

The September 5th meeting will be held at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital-Dallas and the December 5th meeting to be held at Mothers Against Drunk Driving (Irving location).

Closing Remarks: Thank you Grand Prairie PD for hosting our meeting this month.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.
Texas Employer Traffic Safety Program

Occupational Driving Safety Programs
Lisa Robinson, CFLE
Program Manager
National Safety council

Our Driving Concern
Equips employers on traffic safety to reduce injuries and fatalities on Texas Roadway

Why Employers?

• Transportation incidents are the leading cause of work-related fatalities and injuries.
• 80% of the population are employed or live with an employer

The Roadway is an Extension of the Workplace

2014 Fatal Occupational Injuries
- Transportation: 31%
- Roadway involving non-motorized land vehicle: 18%
- Violence and other injuries by persons or animal: 12%
- Homicides: 6%
- Falls, slips, trips: 13%
- Contact with objects and equipment: 13%
- Exposure to harmful substances or environment: 6%
- Other events or exposures: 11%

2014 Occupational Fatalities
Motor Vehicle Operators: 739
Other Occupations: 1,245
On & Off the Job Crashes Cost Employers $47.4 Billion in 2013

- **Property Damage**: $20,600,000,000
- **Health-related fringe benefits including sick leave, health insurance and insurance covering work losses**: $26,800,000,000

**Impact**
- Health, life, & disability payments
- Sick Leave
- Contributions to workers’ compensation, medical, and disability insurance
- Liability Insurance
- Crash-related legal expenses
- Lost productivity
- Recruiting and training to replace an injured employee

**Why Employers Care**

Texas Employers spend **$3.5 Billion** every year as a result of on-and-off the job traffic injuries and fatalities.

**CRASHES COST EMPLOYERS WHENEVER THEY OCCUR**

- **Lost Work Days**
  - Total: 1.628 million
  - 1,473 due to on-the-job crashes
  - 155 due to off-the-job crashes

**Driver Behavior Has a Direct Effect on Employer Crash Costs**

- Speeding: $8.4 billion
- Distracted Driving: $8.2 billion
- Alcohol: $6 billion
- Not Wearing Seat Belt: $4.9 billion

**On & Off the Job Matters**

- On Job: 19%
- Off Job: 81%

- Fringe Benefits:
  - 21,800,000,000
  - 5,000,000,000
According to a survey conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 in 25 adult drivers (age 18 or older) reported falling asleep while driving in the 30 days before they were questioned.

AAA reports 87% of drivers indicated they have engaged in at least one risky behavior while behind the wheel within the last month, those risky behaviors ranging from distracted, impaired or drowsy driving to running red lights, speeding or not wearing seat belts.

38% of Texas drivers said they talked on their mobile phone while driving?

21% of drivers said they send or read text messages while driving?

Road Safety Programs
- Untrained employees = increase in injuries
- Untrained employees = poor morale when employees are out injured
- Untrained employees = increase in claims & liability
- Untrained employees = increase in premiums
- Untrained employees = regulatory citations

Road Safety Programs
- Can help employers control costs and can make roads safer for everyone.
- Can reduce the costs of crashes and can also lower the average number of crashes.
- Can reduce your crash rate by 50% or more.
Equip Employers differently

- Implement Safe Driver Policies
- Encourage employees to hold each other accountable
- Focus on on-and-off the job traffic safety
- Continued on-going safety education
- Reward, reward, reward
- Hold employees accountable for breaking policy
- Make sure your employees know the policies

Consistent and on-going messaging
- Back to Basics
- Include all employees in training and education
- Involve your employees
- Make traffic safety a focus, not an afterthought
- Driver Policies
  - Policies that are enforced

Our Driving Concern

- Newsletters
- Webinars
- Training
- Safety Coach Cards
- On-line Learning
- Posters, handouts, etc.
- Safety Fair support
- Power Point Presentations
- Partnerships with Statewide Organizations, community groups, coalitions, etc.
- Conference Speaking

Positive Decreases Negative

+ It can be a tool... a motivator
TXDRIVINGCONCERN.ORG

Safety Coach Cards

- Distracted Driving
- Impaired Driving
- Drowsy Driving
- Passenger Restraint
- Driving Basics
- Speeding/Aggressive Driving
- Driving with Trucks

Best Practices: City of Corpus Christi

<table>
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<tr>
<th>The City of Corpus Christi, 2014 Award Recipient</th>
<th>Over 3100 employees</th>
<th>Auto Liability Claims</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2014 Jan.-Sept.</td>
<td>Auto Liability claims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>decreased 28%</td>
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<td>$163,986</td>
<td>$33,690</td>
<td>Paid $ claims decreased 57%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Vehicle collisions decreased 7%</td>
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Best Practices: City of Sugarland

83% decrease in crash-related costs and 31% decrease in crash related claims in fiscal year 2014, and no crash related fatalities.

Best Practices: Spectra Energy, Houston

Experiencing a 50% reduction in preventable vehicle incidents since the implementation.

Best Practices: Med Star

Through aggressive traffic safety campaigns, training, and face to face coaching, MedStar, in Ft. Worth, continues to recognize a steady decline in the number and severity of collisions. Additionally, individual unsafe behaviors continue to trend downward.

Best Practices: Nalco Champion, Houston

Their efforts have resulted in a 13% reduction in total vehicle incidents in Q1 2015 compared to the same period in 2014.

For more information

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txdrivingconcern.org