

NEW JERSEY POLICE TRAFFIC OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

April 2019 NEWSLETTER



Our 44th Year

Nick Schock - President
Frank Fiore - Vice President
Rich Maxwell - Editor / Training Coordinator
NJPTOA Business office - PO Box 664, Voorhees, NJ 08043

Tony Parenti - Executive Director
Mark Wilson - Operations Secretary
traffic@njptoa.org
www.njptoa.org
(856) 220-1433

Monthly Business Meetings – regularly scheduled meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month, at the AAA Complex, 700 Horizon Drive, Hamilton Township (Mercer County) starting at 10:00 AM. The association does not meet during the months of July and August. June’s monthly meeting is normally held in Atlantic City on the Wednesday of the Police Security Expo, this year it will be held on June 25th.

President’s Message – April is National Distracted Driving Awareness month. Please be diligent with your enforcement and education efforts during this time. We are asking that all agencies, regardless of funding status, report their statistics to the Division of Highway Safety upon the completion of the enforcement period (April 1-21). The reporting of statistics is critical to ensuring future grant funding.

As I mentioned in previous meetings, our website and email distribution list have undergone significant changes and improvements over the past few months. Please visit www.njptoa.org for current association information. Any correspondence should now be directed to traffic@njptoa.org. Please add this address to your “safe senders” to ensure proper delivery of association communications.

Newsletter Update – For members that are not aware, Tony Parenti stepped down from the Editor’s position for the association’s monthly newsletter. Tony has done an outstanding job for the past 44 years editing this newsletter and keeping members informed. Don’t worry, our founding father is continuing his work for the association in his position of Executive Director. I hope to be able to continue to bring our members the newsletter they expect and deserve.

One change that is forthcoming is that in the newsletter will no longer be sent out by US Mail. It will be available in electronic format only, by email and on the association’s website.

With this in mind, I am looking towards our members to help support the monthly newsletter by submitting articles, information about events and training, topics of interest, or anything they want to spread the word about. Keep tuned for upcoming updates about the newsletter. If you would like to submit something for the newsletter, please email it to me at rlmax@att.net.



U DRIVE. U TEXT. U PAY • 2019 DISTRACTED DRIVING CRACKDOWN – April 1st to 21st

New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety has awarded 207 Police Departments a total of \$1,072,775 for the 2019 Crackdown, down from 213 agencies and \$1,415,030 in 2018.

Distracted driving is a dangerous epidemic on New Jersey's roadways, being cited as a major contributing factor in over 804,000 motor vehicle crashes in the state from 2011 to 2015. Nationwide 3,450 people were killed in distracted driving crashes in 2016 alone.

To combat these troubling statistics, law enforcement agencies throughout New Jersey will be using a combination of traditional and innovative strategies to crack down on motorists who text and drive. This effort is a part of the national U Drive. U Text. U Pay high-visibility enforcement (HVE) campaign that combines periods of intense anti-texting enforcement coupled with advertising and media outreach to let people know about the enforcement and convince them to obey the law. U Drive. U Text. U Pay enforcement strategies include roving police patrols, spotters on highway overpasses, and stationary police vehicles prominently placed at strategic locations.

Distracted driving is any activity that could divert a person's attention away from the primary task of driving. All distractions endanger driver, passenger, and bystander safety. But, because text messaging requires visual, manual, and cognitive attention from the driver, it is by far the most alarming distraction.

NHTSA has campaign materials available to download, go to the below link for more information:

<https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/distracted-driving/u-drive-u-text-u-pay>



New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety – We would like to congratulate Eric Heitmann who became the new Director of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in March 2019. Director Heitmann was our guest speaker for the March meeting. Eric is not a stranger to a majority of our members, he is 25-year veteran of the New Jersey State Police, during which time he rose to the rank of Major. He is a nationally-recognized and well-respected expert in the field of traffic safety and accident investigation. Director Heitmann's last assignment with the State Police was serving as the Troop D Commander, responsible for all policing services on the New Jersey Turnpike and Garden State Parkway. We all wish him well in his new position and look forward to working with him and his office in the future.

2019 Law Enforcement Memorial Service – May 21, 2019 - Please join the New Jersey Police Chiefs Foundation at the 35th Annual New Jersey Law Enforcement Memorial Service for law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty over the past year, as well as all the heroes who have been lost over the years. This annual tribute will be held at the historic Great Auditorium in Ocean Grove, starting at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, May 21, 2019.

The memorial service brings together the entire law enforcement community and the public for a day of solemn remembrance. All members of the law enforcement community, family, friends, the press and the public at large are welcome and greatly encouraged to attend. No RSVP is required.

For additional information, please contact the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police State Office at (856) 334-8943 or their website njsacop@njsacop.org.

Can Anyone Give a Cop the Finger? YES! The middle Finger Is Protected Speech, as the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals has recently reminded us again. A citizen can't obstruct us from doing our job, or act menacing towards a police officer. But courts all over have found that middle finger is expressive, protected First

Amendment speech. Quoting the court, it's "crude, but not criminal." The court opened their five page decision with this line: "Fits of rudeness or lack of gratitude may violate the Golden Rule. But that doesn't make them illegal or for that matter punishable or for that matter grounds for a seizure."

Ocean County Police Traffic Safety Officer's Association – (part of Region 5) would like to announce that the ninth annual *Fallen Ocean Gate Officer Jason Marles #271 DWI Award* will be presented to an Ocean County Police Officer at this years' Lakewood Blue Claws First Responders Night on Thursday June 6th, 2019.

A drunk driver on the Garden State Parkway tragically killed Ocean Gate police officer Jason Marles in the early morning hours of November 25th, 2010. The irony of this tragedy was that Officer Marles had just completed a DWI enforcement grant and was on his way home still in uniform. His two young children and his family survive him. This award was conceived to honor Officer Marles' memory and to recognize the hard work of an Ocean County police officer that demonstrated a strong commitment towards the effort to stop drinking and driving in Ocean County.

This award will be presented at 6:30pm at the Lakewood Blue Claws First Responders Night event in a dedication ceremony prior to the beginning of the game. The application for this award is sent to all departments in Ocean County who are current members of the Ocean County Police Traffic Safety Officer's Association in good standing. All officers who are nominated will be presented with a certificate and recognized during the ceremony. The winning officer will receive an engraved plaque and throw out the first pitch of the game.

Tickets for the June 6th ball game can be purchased at the Blue Claws Box Office or by visiting their website at www.blueclaws.com

New York City Could Soon Have the Largest Automated Speed Camera Program in the United States – NYC will surpass Chicago, Illinois, as having the country's largest automated speed camera system if the new bill becomes law. Chicago presently has 161 speed cameras, but if the New York legislation is adopted it could allow a private company to install more than a thousand speed ticketing cameras throughout Manhattan.

New York now has 290 speed cameras that are capable of issuing automated summonses in the area around various schools. The new bill, which the Governor is expected to sign into law, will allow use of automated speed cameras on any road as long as it is within a quarter mile of an entrance or exit to a school, increasing the number of camera locations to 750.

Current law allows automated speed cameras to be used 30 minutes before a school activity starts and until 30 minutes after it is completed. The new bill removes the linking to school times, allowing cameras to be used between the hours of 6:00 AM and 10:00 PM, year round.

New York City is the home of the nation's first red light camera program. The city is also expanding to new ways to issue citations. A private vendor will be allowed to issue automated summonses to vehicles that momentarily cross over into a bus lane. To make this happen, automated ticketing cameras are being installed on over 100 city buses.

Kean University's Traffic Safety Program / NJ State Police FAU – As part of an ongoing project involving the Crash Data Retrieval System, they are developing a statewide resource database of agencies that have equipment dealing with retrieving crash related data from motor vehicles. They are looking to law enforcement agencies to supply with this information. If your agency, or if you know of one that does, have this type of equipment and related software please see the CDR Kit Survey Form attached to this newsletter and forward the form to Rich Maxwell at rlmax@att.net

Most Highway Crashes are not Accidents

By NTSB Vice Chairman Bruce Landsberg

Traffic crashes that claim the lives of one, two, maybe even five people don't seem that severe. Would there be more urgency to address highway safety if per-crash fatalities were higher? Suppose a family member or a friend was the one killed or injured? Typically, it's not until someone we love is hurt that we realize most highway crashes are not accidents at all, but are thoroughly preventable. "Accidents," on the other hand, are unforeseen and unpredictable.

Fatal crashes can often be attributed to the all-too-human failings of trying to get somewhere just a bit quicker than traffic or road conditions will safely allow, not planning for alternative transportation after a few drinks, being distracted by a text message, or choosing to get behind the wheel after a night of too little sleep. We know how to stop this; the solutions aren't new or complicated. The NTSB has been advocating for effective countermeasures for decades. Last month, we issued our 2019 – 2020 [Most Wanted List](#) of transportation safety improvements, which highlights the actions needed to prevent transportation accidents and crashes. Guess what's on the list? Distraction, fatigue, and medical fitness. Speed and impairment are also included.

All drivers, private and commercial, are supposed to be medically fit to drive. Professional drivers who are prone to seizures, who may be suffering from undiagnosed diabetes, or who are at risk of another sudden-onset, incapacitating illness shouldn't be operating big rigs or motor coaches until they're treated and under a physician's care. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has made some progress in improving its medical oversight system, but too many drivers continue to obtain licenses despite medically disqualifying conditions. Is this acceptable?

Fatigue is another huge problem on our roads. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in 2015, 90,000 police-reported crashes, which led to an estimated 41,000 people injured, involved drowsy drivers. In 2017, nearly 800 fatalities resulted from drowsy driving, and these numbers are certainly and significantly undercounted. Undiagnosed obstructive sleep apnea affects both professional drivers and the public at large. Drivers who aren't sleeping well should see a physician about underlying causes of insomnia. Fatigue is proven to have the same deadly effects as alcohol consumption.

Finally, distraction! It's been conclusively proven that humans are lousy multitaskers, and our ability to self-assess our skills to the contrary is likewise flawed. (I'm really good, and if you don't believe it, just ask me!) Studies have consistently shown that mobile phone use also leads to about the same level of impairment as, you guessed it, too much alcohol (the NTSB has [recommended](#) that all states lower legal DUI levels to .05 percent blood alcohol concentration). Texting while driving can increase the crash risk up to 22 times. In 2016, more than 3,100 fatal crashes involving distraction occurred on US roadways (again, this number is likely much underreported). In this age of constant connection, it's beyond time to ask ourselves, is it worth the cost?

And it's not just portable devices that are causing distraction, either. Auto manufacturers want to sell the most fun-to-drive products with the best infotainment systems. But too much button pushing and menu navigation means too much heads-down time in complex traffic environments. Let's use our technology and knowledge to stop the carnage.

A balance of regulation and common sense is needed on both sides of the regulatory divide. Ultimately, it comes down to the cost of human life versus the cost of doing business. It all depends on who's doing the calculation, but the real cost of lives lost, and collateral damage go well beyond insurance settlements and lawsuits. Is that phone call, text, minutes saved, or extra drink truly worth it? The upside is minimal, the downside horrendous possibly life-ending or financially ruinous. But it won't happen to you or anyone you know, right?

By midnight tonight, another 100 friends, neighbors, and family members will have died on our roads. In just one day, several thousand more will have been badly injured, many with no full recovery. This statistic will repeat every day this year, and the next, and the next. And **not one person** in those crashes, whether they were at

fault or innocent victims, started out that day thinking it would be their last. So, what are you going to do about it?

Chief Justice Orders Special Master in DWI cases involving trooper who did not conduct correct tests

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS the Court in State v. Eileen Cassidy (A-58-16) issued a decision on November 13, 2018 holding that Alcotest results from machines calibrated without using a thermometer that produces NIST-traceable temperature readings in the calibration process are inadmissible as evidence; and

WHEREAS the Administrative Office of the Courts previously had been notified by the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General that evidential breath samples from defendants in 20,667 driving while intoxicated (DWI) cases were procured using Alcotest machines calibrated without using a NIST-traceable thermometer and over 13,000 of those cases involved findings of guilty, either by trial or by plea; and

WHEREAS the Court's opinion in State v. Cassidy directed the Administrative Office of the Courts to monitor and determine how best to handle cases affected by the Court's decision; and

WHEREAS the Administrative Office of the Courts has recommended that a special master be appointed for coordination of the management of such cases on a statewide basis to develop better processing of these cases, to provide greater consistency and efficiency, and to minimize conflicts and delays; and

WHEREAS the Administrative Office of the Courts also has recommended that the special master have the authority to dismiss or take other appropriate judicial action on affected cases;

IT IS ORDERED pursuant to N.J. Const. (1947) Art. 6, S 2, 3, that, effective immediately and until further order, Superior Court Judge Robert A. Fall, retired and serving on recall, in addition to any other judicial assignment on recall, is hereby designated as the special master with judicial authority on a statewide basis to make judicial and administrative decisions relating to adjudicated cases in which evidential breath samples were procured using Alcotest machines calibrated without using a NIST-traceable thermometer; and

It is FURTHER ORDERED that this designation of Judge Fall as special master shall last until further order, with Judge Fall being asked to report to the Court as soon as practicable, and regularly thereafter, on the issue of whether statewide management of the subject issues remains beneficial and in the public interest or whether the cases would be better managed at the vicinage and/or municipal level.

Chief Justice Rabner
Dated: January 29, 2019

New Jersey State Police Fatal Accident Investigation Unit

For the first three months of 2019 there were 119 traffic fatalities in NJ as compared to 117 during the same period in 2018 and 116 in 2017.

FATAL CRASHES			FATALITIES	
2019	107		2019	119
2018	107		2018	117
2017	112		2017	116

Difference in Fatalities from 2018 TO 2019 = increase of 2
Percentage of change between 2018 and 2019 = + 1.7%
Difference in Fatalities from 2017 TO 2018 = increase of 1
Percentage of change between 2017 and 2018 = + 0.9%

<https://www.njsp.org/info/fatalacc/index.shtml>

Training Events

107th Annual Training Conference & Police Security Expo

June 24 – 27, 2019 at the Resorts Hotel & Casino, in Atlantic City

Each year, the NJ State Association of Chiefs of Police convenes the organization's largest and most important event of the year, the Annual Training Conference and Police/Security Expo. The Conference combines prominent speakers and training professionals, high-profile incident reviews, and valuable leadership insights for the police executive with networking functions.

The emotional high point of the Installation Banquet is the NJ Police Chiefs Foundation Valor Awards, presented to law enforcement officers and civilians who have gone over and above the call of duty to help their fellow citizens at the peril of their own safety or even life.

The Annual Police/Security Expo is one of the largest law enforcement-related tradeshows in North America. Over 650 vendors and 7,500 attendees converge on the Atlantic City Convention Center for two days to view and tryout the latest in tools, technology, hardware and software for the police and security professional.

Go to the below links for more information and how to register to attend the conference and expo:

<https://files.constantcontact.com/968adeca001/056b4890-ef2e-4ced-9cfe-f815bc730bff.pdf>

<https://www.police-security.com/>



April LEL Webinar – Oral Fluid Testing: Michigan Pilot Project Update

Join the National Law Enforcement Liaison Program (LEL) on Wednesday, April 17, at 1:30 p.m. EDT for the April LEL webinar, which will focus on the results of Michigan's Oral Fluid Roadside Analysis Pilot program.

As drug-impaired driving continues to threaten road safety, law enforcement officers must be able to easily detect and deter this behavior. The legalization of marijuana for medical and recreational use in many states, coupled with the ongoing presence of what many call an opioid crisis, indicate that this issue isn't going away any time soon. This webinar will examine how technology can complement officer training to support meaningful enforcement of drug-impaired driving laws and accurately assess impairment. Michigan Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor Ken Stecker will provide an update on the state's Oral Fluid Roadside Analysis Pilot Program, discussing the background and laws surrounding the effort as well as considering what the future holds for oral fluid testing in drugged driving investigations and prosecutions.

Click the link below to register for this webinar:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3781101037314816514?source=ts>

The March LEL Webinar Recording – A recording of the March LEL Webinar, "*Click It or Ticket: What's New for 2019*," is now available to view online. Topics discussed included the Border-to-Border enforcement effort, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) planned media strategy, innovative communications tactics that state and local agencies can implement, and new materials developed for the campaign, as well as Florida's successful strategies and lessons learned.

Press Ctrl + Click here to [Watch the recording >>](#)

LTI Crash/Crime/Fire Mapping Webinar Series

Diagramming 101: FaroZone and IMS Map360 Tips and Tricks
Tuesday, May 7, 2019 at 12 noon EDT

Speakers: Mike Allard and Matt Hewko

This is another in the Free webinar series being presented by Laser Technology Incorporated (LTI). Mapping and documenting a crash, crime, or fire scene is one thing, creating courtroom-ready diagrams and presentations is another. Optimize your time with the "Map to Draw" approach when transitioning from the field to the office. Learn from industry experts that are certified instructors to some of the more popular CAD programs available today. Discover helpful tips and tricks that can save hours of your time. All attendees can qualify for 1 CEU credit through ACTAR

Press Ctrl + Click [Here](#) to register for this webinar.

New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police

Pre-Employment Background Investigations for New Jersey Police Departments

The NJSACOP is offering this two-day interactive program on two different occasions, it is open to Supervisors and Officers conducting Background Investigations. The course is designed by Fort Lee Police Chief Keith Bendul specifically for New Jersey law enforcement agency background investigators to increase their knowledge and obligations in managing the Pre-Employment Hiring Functions.

The course will breakdown New Jersey and federal employment law and how to supervise the hiring function in an expeditious and efficient manner.

This program will provide an opportunity for attendees to gain the necessary knowledge base relative to this important function.

Dates: April 23 & 24, 2019
June 18 & 19, 2019

Location: Middlesex County Fire Academy
Sayreville, NJ

Times: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Cost: \$299

Press Ctrl + [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

For more information, contact the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police at:
(856) 334-8943
njsacop@njsacop.org

Quote of the month

"If people are aware of the law, but don't see it being enforced, they don't feel pressured to change their behavior." As a new study investigates the effect of handheld bans, GHSA's @russ_martin81 discusses why we need strong #distracteddriving laws. <http://bit.ly/2WtDTDl> - @GHSAHQ

***Remember to always wear your bullet proof vest
and when in traffic wear your high visibility safety vest !!
Stay Safe Out There***



New Jersey Crossing Guard Training and Resources Program Train-the-Trainer Class

Are you currently working as a Police Traffic Safety Officer supervising School Crossing Guards?

If YES, please join us for a crossing guard supervisor training program.

Somerset County Police Academy
Tuesday, May 7, 2019, 8:30am – 12:30pm

Passaic County Police Academy
Wednesday, May 15, 2019, 8:30am – 12:30pm

Ocean County Police Academy
Tuesday, June 11, 2019, 8:30am – 12:30pm

About the Training:

The training will include discussion of crossing guard hiring, training, and supervising procedures, state and federal law and regulations, and hands-on practice to conduct similar training for crossing guards in your community.

This class is free to participants.

To register, or for more information, please contact Catherine Bull at 848-932-2833; catherine.bull@ejb.rutgers.edu

For more information on the New Jersey Crossing Guard Program, go to njcrossingguards.org

This training is sponsored by NJ Department of Transportation and NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety with funding from the Federal Highway Administration, and by New Jersey Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund.





BLUECLAWS 2019

WE WELCOME POLICE, FIRE, EMT, PBA & ALL FIRST RESPONDERS TO:

FIRST RESPONDERS THURSDAY JUNE 6, 2019 GATES AT 6:00 PM | GAME AT 7:05 PM

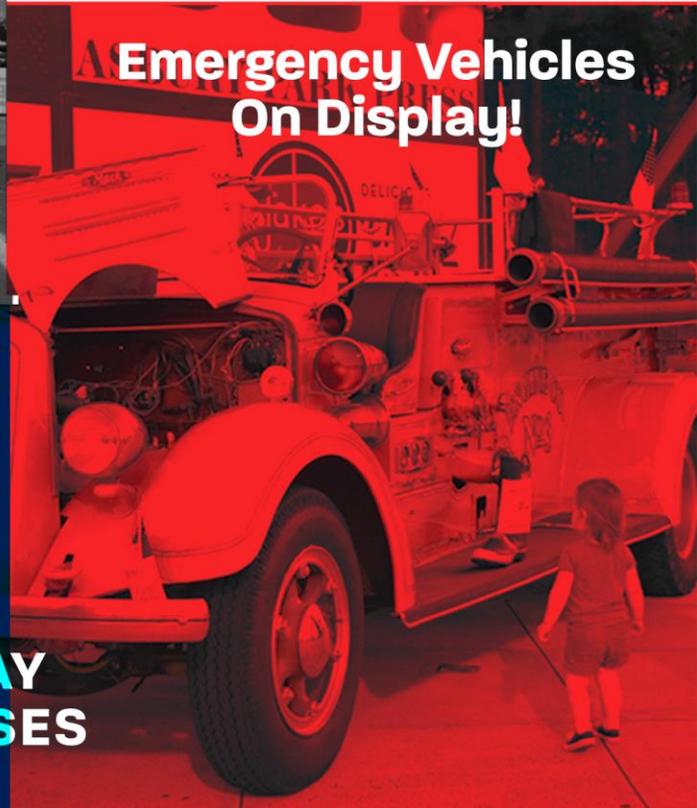
NIGHT



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FOR MORE INFO: Contact Brian O'Shaughnessy
732-901-7000 Ext 106 or boshughnessy@blueclaws.com

732-901-7000

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CDR Kit Survey Form

If your agency owns any of the below equipment, please check off the appropriate answers.

Agency name – _____

Agency contact person – _____

Contact phone number – _____

Contact email – _____

Type of equipment:

Bosch CDR Kit Yes___ No___

900 Upgrade Yes___ No___

Current version of Bosch software: _____

Hyundi Kit Yes___ No___

Kia Kit Yes___ No___

Tesla Kit Yes___ No___

Please send completed forms to Rich Maxwell
at rmax@att.net
or mail to
PO Box 367
Hampton, NJ 08827