

Happy New Year
2020

NEW JERSEY POLICE TRAFFIC OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

Volume XLV Issue VIII



*The only statewide association of its kind in the entire United States
Dedicated to the memory of Anthony "Tony" Parenti*

Nick Schock - President

Mike Boffa - Vice President

Rich Maxwell - Editor / Training Coordinator

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Mark Wilson - Operations Secretary

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Monthly Business Meetings

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the association will be on January 8th at AAA Mid-Atlantic, 700 Horizon Drive in Hamilton (Mercer County) starting at 10:00 am. The date was rescheduled due to the holiday on the first.

The guest speaker for the meeting will be Investigator Mark Cushing of the NJ Motor Vehicle Commission's Fraudulent Document Training Unit.

There will be a Board Meeting at 9:00 am just before the Business Meeting.

President's Message

I hope everyone had a safe and joyful holiday season. As we begin 2020, the NJPTOA is welcoming several new members to the executive board. I want to thank both the incoming and outgoing executive board members for their contributions to the association. As I look back over the past two years serving as President, I believe the association has grown stronger, more knowledgeable, and has offered more to its members and partners than ever before. I look forward to continuing to serve as your President for the next two years.

In 2020, the association will be involved in several important traffic safety functions, including the 2020 Highway Safety Summit, the planning of the New Jersey Strategic Highway Safety Plan, and the Autonomous Vehicle Task Force. If any members are interested in serving in any capacity for these areas, please let me know as soon as possible.

Stay safe,
Nick

NJPTOA Election Results for 2020 - 2021

The elections were held during the December regular business meeting, all candidates were unopposed, so one ballot was cast for the record for all offices.

The elective officers of the Association are: President, Executive Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Sergeant-At-Arms, the Eight (8) Regional Vice-Presidents and Eight (8) Regional Representatives. The President appoints all other positions.

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Chair Officers for 2020 & 2021

President - Sgt. Nicholas Schock - Gloucester County Prosecutor's Office

First Vice President - Sgt. Michael Boffa - Bloomingdale Police Dept

Secretary - PO Joseph Fosko - Livingston Police Dept

Treasurer - PO Ross Chase - Lawnside Police Dept

Financial Secretary - PO Mark Melchiorre - Middlesex Police Dept

Executive Director – vacant

Operations Secretary - Lt. Mark Wilson - Retired Voorhees Police Dept

Sergeant at Arms - Sgt. Gary Holsten - South Brunswick Police Dept

Training Coordinator - Sgt. Richard Maxwell - Retired Colts Neck Police Dept

Immediate Past President - PO Timothy Franco - Retired Fair Lawn Police Dept

Region Vice Presidents and Region Representatives

REGION 1 – Bergen County

VP - PO Thomas Check - Fair Lawn Police Dept

RR - Det. Steve Quintano - Bergen County Prosecutor Office

REGION 2 – Essex & Hudson Counties

VP - PO William Frazee - Verona Police Dept

RR - Lt. Paul Giardino - Montclair State University Police Dept

REGION 3 – Morris, Passaic, Sussex, & Warren Counties

VP - Cpl. Ronald Koumaras - Vernon Police Dept

RR - PO William Galop - Mount Olive Township Police Dept

REGION 4 – Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Somerset, & Union Counties

VP - Lt. Christopher Guenther - Linden Police Dept

RR - Sgt. Constance Crea - Piscataway Police Dept

REGION 5 – Monmouth & Ocean Counties

VP - Det. Kristian DeVito - Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office - Major Crimes

RR - PO Kenneth Marrone - Marlboro Police Department

REGION 6 – Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, & Salem Counties

VP - PO Brenndan Sparkevicius - Audubon Police Dept

RR - Sgt. Mark Burton - Monroe Twp Police Dept

REGION 7 – Atlantic, Cape May, & Cumberland Counties

VP - PO Wade Smith - Hamilton Twp Police Dept

RR - PO Robert Moran - Egg Harbor Twp Police Dept

REGION 8 – New Jersey State Police

VP - Capt. Michael Rizol - NJ State Police

RR - Lt. Robert Babitz - NJ State Police

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NJPTOA Region Spotlight – Region Five Monmouth and Ocean Counties



NJPTOA's Region Five consists of two counties, Monmouth and Ocean. Each county also has its own Traffic Officers Associations: the Ocean County Traffic Officers Association and the Monmouth County Traffic Officers Association. In 2019 Ocean County had 38 crashes causing 40 fatalities, while Monmouth County had 33 crashes resulting in 36 fatalities, placing them in fifth and sixth place respectively in the state for 2019.

Detective Kristian DeVito, Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office, is the Region Vice President, while Officer Kenneth Marrone, Marlboro Township Police Department, serves at the Region Representative.

Detective DeVito also services as the President of the Monmouth County Association, while Officer Steven Schwartz of the Toms River Township Police Department is the President of the Ocean County Association.

Each County has its own Police Academy which offers both basic recruit training for full-time officers and Special Police Officers, as well as in-service training classes.

The two County Association separately meets monthly but comes together two times a year for a joint (regional) meeting. They meet together in June and December.

At the recent December 20th joint meeting, Monmouth County awarded Sergeant Todd Gregory, of the Ocean Township Police Department, with Traffic Officer of The Year. Todd is deeply involved with the Monmouth County Serious Collision and Analysis Team (SCART) in addition to his regular duties in Ocean Township.

Ocean County is located along the Jersey Shore in the central portion of the state (yes, central Jersey). Its county seat is Toms River Twp. Since the 1990s, Ocean County has been one of New Jersey's fastest-growing counties. The county is about 915 square miles in size, making it the state's largest county by area, with a population of over 600,000. The County was established on February 15, 1850, from portions of Monmouth County to its north, and named after the Atlantic Ocean. There are 33 municipalities in the county, with over 2,950 miles of roadways, and it has 45.2 miles of coastline, the longest of any county in NJ.

Monmouth County is also located along the Jersey Shore in the central portion of the state (yes central again), but it is the northernmost county along the Jersey Shore. Freehold Borough serves as its county seat. The county is about 665 square miles in size, with a population of over 630,000. The County was established on March 7, 1683, while part of the province of East Jersey, and named after Monmouth County in England. There are 53 municipalities in the county, with over 3,350 miles of roadways.



Sgt. Todd Gregory (left) receiving his Monmouth County Traffic Officer of the Year award from President Kristian DeVito (right) at the annual joint Monmouth Ocean Traffic Officers Assoc (Region 5) Meeting on December 20, 2019.

Ocean & Monmouth County Traffic Officers Associations - NJPTOA Region 5 2019 Kimberly Smith Ames Awards

The 2019 Kimberly Smith Ames Award was presented to a municipal police officer from each county during the annual joint Monmouth-Ocean Traffic Officers Associations (NJPTOA Region 5) annual holiday luncheon on December 20th held at the Colts Neck Fire House #1.

The award is based on the officer's activities and involvements between November 1, 2018, and October 31, 2019, and they have to be nominated by another officer from their agency.

Patrolman John Roth, Jackson Township Police Department, received the award from Ocean County while Patrolman Ron Osadacz, Aberdeen Township Police Department, received the award from Monmouth County.

Ptl. Ron Osadacz was nominated Sergeant Brian Alberti, who outlined Ron's achievements. Ron has been with Aberdeen PD since July 2017 and is currently assigned to their Traffic Safety Division. He takes a proactive approach to DWI enforcement, completing the DWI.SFST course offered by the State Police, has worked numerous DWI Saturation Patrols conducted by the Bayshore Taskforce, and in May he conducted a DWI Awareness presentation at the Matawan Regional High School for the students. Officer Osadacz was responsible for twenty DWI arrests in the twelve months outlined above,

Ptl. John Roth was nominated by Officer Brad Reider of Jackson's Traffic Safety Unit; he also outlined John's reasons for the award. John is a Marine Corps veteran, having served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Before joining the Jackson Twp PD, he started his career as a Special Police Officer with the Seaside Heights PD and then as a Sheriff's Officer with the Ocean County Sheriff's Office. While at the Sheriff's Office, he assigned to the Special Operations Group battling the County's Heroin epidemic.

Ptl. Roth is assigned to the patrol division but has made DWI enforcement an important priority as part of his regular duties. John had made eight DWI arrests during the time frame outlined for the award.

In addition to his police duties, as a veteran, John has formed a grassroots program called Recalibrate. It is a non-profit organization intended to help returning vets make their adjustment back into civilian life. Along with other veterans, John and his organization provide support services, both clinical and non-clinical, Assorted fitness programs, career coaching, along with mental health support.

The following officers were also nominated for the Kimberly Smith Ames and received a certificate of recognition:

- Lieutenant Richard Roemmele – Seaside Heights Police Department
- Patrolman Ryan Fitzgerald – Toms River Township Police Department
- Patrolman Matthew Menosky – Holmdel Township Police Department

The Annual Kimberly Smith-Ames DWI Prevention Award was created to honor the life and memory of a 23-year-old woman struck by a drunk driver in Beachwood on Oct. 7, 1998. She and her unborn child were killed. The award was created by her parents, Ed and Carol Smith.

The purpose of this award is to increase the public's awareness of the enormous commitment and determination put forward by the men and women of the Ocean County law enforcement community in educating and preventing driving while intoxicated offenses while acknowledging those officers who have demonstrated such commitment to this fight.

Ocean & Monmouth County Traffic Officers Associations - NJPTOA Region 5 2019 Kimberly Smith Ames Awards



Pt. John Roth (center) receiving the 2019 Ocean Kimberly Smith Ames DWI Award, presented by President Steven Schwartz (right) and fellow Officer Brad Reider of Jackson Twp PD. At the Annual Joint Monmouth Ocean Traffic Officer's Associations (region 5) Meeting on December 20, 2019.

Pt. Ron Osadacz (left) receiving his 2019 Monmouth County Kimberly Smith Ames DWI Award presented by President Kristian DeVito (right) at the Annual Joint Monmouth Ocean Traffic Officer's Associations (Region 5) Meeting on December 20, 2019.



Updates from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety



New Jersey Traffic Safety Summit 2020

NJDHTS is in the planning stages for a statewide Traffic Safety Summit for the year 2020. Some of the topics they are considering include:

- DRE exams
- DRE availability
- Drugged driving
- Marijuana and DWI
- Crash statistics
- NJTR-1 electronic data transfer
- Improved crash report accuracy
- Using grants and personnel most effectively for traffic safety
- Pedestrian countermeasures
- Autonomous vehicles
- Law Enforcement attitudes about traffic enforcement

They are looking for input on these and ideas aimed at other possible topics from members of our Association. If you have an idea for a topic or can help out with one of those listed, please contact Tomi-Anne Raue, Manager of Special Projects at Division of Highway Traffic Safety at 609-376-9712 or email Tomi-Anne.Raue@njoag.gov

DID YOU KNOW - There were about 6,734,000 police-reported crashes in 2018 across the nation.

DID YOU KNOW - In 2018, there were 10,511 people killed in drunk-driving crashes nationwide.

ABOUT 511NJ - The 511NJ.org website, phone system, Personalized Travel Service, and New Jersey Traffic features provide real-time traffic and traveler information about incidents, crashes, congestion, construction, special events, and travel times. The Dept updates this information 24 hours a day, 7 days per week.

DID YOU KNOW - US Traffic Fatalities Declined 2.2% During First Nine Months of 2019.

Police Duty Deaths Dropped 18% in 2019, NLEOMF Reports

Policemag.com Dec 30, 2019

The Memorial Fund announced Monday in its 2019 Preliminary End-of-Year Law Enforcement Fatalities Report that 128 federal, state, local, tribal and territorial officers died in the line of duty over the past year, representing an 18% decrease over the 157 officers who died in the line of duty in 2018.

Traffic-related fatalities decreased 12% with 43 deaths in 2019 compared to 49 deaths in 2018.

[READ MORE](#)

Updates from the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission



DWI Interlock Licensed Installers

Now that the new DWI Interlock law is in effect, persons convicted of DWI must install their interlock devices as soon as possible before a case disposition by way of a guilty plea or finding. The following link is to the NJ MVC list of approved Interlock Providers in our state.

[Click here for the list of MVC Licensed Ignition Interlock Installers](#)

Updates from the New Jersey State Police



Fatal Accident Investigation Unit

[Click here for more details from the NJSP Fatal Accident Unit](#)

Below is fatal crash data for the state as of 10:00 am, December 31, 2019

Fatal Crashes			Fatalities	
2019	523		2019	557
2018	524		2018	563
2017	591		2017	624

Difference in Fatalities from 2018 to 2019 = decrease of 6
 Percentage of change between 2018 and 2019 = - 1.1%

Difference in Fatalities from 2017 to 2018 = decrease of 61
 Percentage of change between 2017 and 2018 = - 9.8%

The table below shows the top five counties with the highest number of fatalities in 2019; this data is subject to change as more information becomes available. As of 10:00 am December 31, 2019

County	Crashes	Fatalities
Camden	45	46
Middlesex	41	46
Gloucester	39	42
Bergen	39	41
Ocean	38	40

The tables to the right show the fatal crashes which occurred over the Christmas and New Year's Holiday Periods.

If you have information that is not included in these tables, contact the NJSP Fatal Accident Unit at (609) 882-2000 Ext. 2038

STATE OF NEW JERSEY				
Fatal Crash Statistics — Holiday Period				
<i>As reported to the New Jersey State Police Fatal Accident Investigation Unit</i>				
Year: 2019		Holiday Period: Christmas - Preliminary		
Begins: Tuesday, December 24, 2019		at: 1800 Hours		
Ends: Thursday, December 26, 2019		at: 0559 Hours		
DATE	TIME	LOCATION	IMPAIRMENT	VICTIM CLASSIFICATION
12/25/2019	0300	U. S. Route 322 Glassboro Boro Gloucester County	Pending	Passenger Car Driver
STATE OF NEW JERSEY				
Fatal Crash Statistics — Holiday Period				
<i>As reported to the New Jersey State Police Fatal Accident Investigation Unit</i>				
Year: 2018-2019		Holiday Period: New Year's Day		
Begins: Friday, December 28, 2018		at: 1800 Hours		
Ends: Wednesday, January 2, 2019		at: 0559 Hours		
DATE	TIME	LOCATION	IMPAIRMENT	VICTIM CLASSIFICATION
01/01/2019	0114	Interstate 676 Camden City Camden County	Alcohol & Drugs	Pedestrian
01/01/2019	0416	Garden State Parkway Ocean Township Ocean County	Alcohol	Passenger Car Driver

Updates from the Office of the New Jersey Attorney General



“Excellence in Policing” Initiative to Promote Professionalism, Accountability, and Transparency in Law Enforcement

Initiative Includes New Statewide Policies Regarding Officer-Involved Shootings, Internal Affairs Investigations, Disclosure of Exculpatory Evidence, and Other Policing Issues

On December 4, 2019, Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal announced a comprehensive package of statewide law enforcement policies designed to ensure New Jersey remains a national leader on policing issues. The policies, known collectively as the “Excellence in Policing” initiative, are intended to enhance public safety and public trust by promoting professionalism, accountability, and transparency among New Jersey’s 36,000 law enforcement officers.

The Attorney General issued five new statewide law enforcement directives and three letters to law enforcement leaders, below is a very brief overview of each:

- **Use-of-Force - AG Directive 2019-4: Independent Prosecutor Directive** - Ensuring independent investigations of use-of-force incidents, police-involved shootings, and in-custody deaths by enhancing statewide policies, and launching a six-town pilot program to test the state’s new online use-of-force portal;
- **Internal Affairs - AG Directive 2019-5: Internal Affairs Directive** - New rules to ensure objective and timely internal affairs investigations by police departments, with robust oversight by county prosecutors and new rules for coordination with Civilian Review Boards;
- **Disclosure of Exculpatory Evidence - AG Directive 2019-6: Statewide Brady-Giglio Directive** - Requiring that all County Prosecutors establish policies and procedures for timely disclosure of *Brady* and *Giglio* evidence;
- **Municipal Prosecutors - AG Directive 2019-7: Municipal Prosecutor Directive** - Improving the quality of justice in the state’s municipal courts by enhancing oversight of municipal prosecutors; and
- **OPIA/Office of Policing Policy - AG Directive 2019-8: OPIA Directive** - Formally codifying the Office of Public Integrity & Accountability (OPIA), and establishing within OPIA an “Office of Policing Policy” to oversee implementation of the Excellence in Policing initiative and develop additional resources, tools, and training to assist the State’s law enforcement agencies and officers.
- **Training & Licensing - Letter to Police Training Commission** - Reinvigorating the Police Training Commission (PTC) and directing it to develop proposals for revamped training protocols and a police licensure system;
- **Identifying At-Risk Officers - Letter Regarding Early Warning Systems** - Transitioning from “early warning systems” to more comprehensive, evidence-based “early intervention systems” that incorporate officer resiliency initiatives;
- **Letter Regarding Use-of-Force Portal** - This letter recognizes the six police department, Bridgeton, Dover, Linden, Millville, Paterson, and South Brunswick, that have volunteered to participate in a pilot program for the Use-of-Force Portal. The letter updates those departments on the progress OPIA has made over the past year in developing the portal, including its data collection and reporting system. A copy of the Portal’s use-of-force reporting form is included with the letter, allowing the public to see for the first time the scope of the information that the database will capture once it goes live.

The full directives and letters can be found at www.nj.gov/oag/excellence/.



Attorney General Issues Directive on Law Enforcement Interactions with Transgender Individuals – Directive 2019-3

On November 20, 2019, Attorney General Grewal issued [Attorney General Law Enforcement Directive No. 2019-3](#), which guides how all law enforcement personnel across the state should interact with transgender individuals. The Directive covers topics such as respectful communication, how searches should be conducted, transportation, detention in police stations, and access to medication when law enforcement interacts with transgender individuals.

The Directive also tasks the Division of Criminal Justice with developing a training program to explain the requirements of the Directive, and requires all state, county, and local law enforcement agencies to provide the training to all officers before June 1, 2020. Also, the Directive requires all state, county, and local law enforcement agencies to, before June 1, 2020, adopt and/or revise their existing policies and practices to comply with the Directive.



Roll Call Training: NJ AG Directive 2019-4

<https://jharristraining.com/>

This J Harris Training Academy Roll Call Training Video reviews the basics of the New Jersey Attorney General Directive 2019-4 sent out on December 4, 2019, concerning the Use of Force Investigations in NJ.

[Click here to view the J Harris roll call video](#)

Updates from the New Jersey Department of Transportation



New Jersey DOT Takes to the Skies

The New Jersey Department of Transportation [released a video](#) describing the institutionalization of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) throughout their state. NJDOT used [STIC Incentive](#) funds to develop their UAS Program, and now, drones are beginning to replace boots on the ground, increasing accuracy, speeding up data collection, and providing access to hard-to-reach locations. To learn more about New Jersey's UAS program, contact [Amanda Gendek](#) with the NJDOT Bureau of Research.



Pedestrian Safety Countermeasures Training and Educational Films

NJDOT has produced six videos to train and educate viewers on the design features and safety benefits of FHWA's Proven Safety Countermeasures that improve pedestrian safety.

[Click here to view the six videos on youtube](#)



NJDOT announces proactive 511NJConnect system

**Keeping motorists informed during extended highway closures on major highways
Alert system uses geofencing technology to provide information to motorists**

On December 23rd New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti announced the launch of 511NJConnect. A new alert system that allows transportation agencies the ability to proactively provide information directly to motorists who are stuck in long-term highway closures.

Developed in coordination with the New Jersey State Police, the 511NJConnect system will be used for long-term traffic incidents in which motorists become immobilized for an extended period on New Jersey's Interstate highways, the New Jersey Turnpike, the Garden State Parkway, or the Atlantic City Expressway.

In the event of a sustained stoppage of traffic, the 511NJConnect system, using geofencing technology, will identify motorists in the proximity of the incident and send an alert to their hand-held devices. Motorists within the target area will be given the option to register for automatic text messaging or phone updates throughout the event generated by transportation agency staff monitoring the situation. The system will allow direct communication and updates about the incident to those motorists who are impacted. Once the incident is resolved, motorists who registered for the alerts will be automatically unsubscribed from the system and all personal data will be removed.

[Click here to read the full press release](#)



Amazon Alexa and Google Assistant features for 511NJ NJ first in the nation to have a statewide voice assistant for real-time travel info

On December 20th New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti announced that NJDOT is the first state highway department in the country to provide hands-free, real-time, statewide, traffic and traveler information using both Amazon Alexa and Google Assistant devices.

The use of voice assistants, where a user asks a question to a smart device such as a mobile phone, smart speaker, or a car's built-in virtual assistants, is the latest enhancement to the 511NJ Traveler Information Program and can be enabled on Amazon Alexa and Google Assistant devices. The Skill (on Alexa), or Action (on Google), is called New Jersey Traffic.

NJDOT is also developing the New Jersey Traffic feature for Siri (Apple) and Cortana (Microsoft), which will be available in Spring 2020.

How to enable the New Jersey Traffic feature on your device:

Amazon Alexa

- To use the New Jersey Traffic Skill on an Alexa device, a user must have an Amazon account. To create an account, go to the Amazon.com website and register.
- Once registered, go to the Alexa Skills Page and search for the New Jersey Traffic Skill.
- Click on the New Jersey Traffic Skill, and on the right-hand side of the display, click “Enable.”
- The New Jersey Traffic Skill will be available on all Alexa devices.
- To use New Jersey Traffic, say, “Alexa, open New Jersey Traffic.” Then follow the prompts as with any other Alexa Skill.

Google Assistant

- To use the New Jersey Traffic Action on a Google device, a user must have a Google account. To create one, go to the Google.com website.
- Once registered, download the Google Assistant from the Android Play Store or the Apple Store.
- On the Google Assistant, search for the New Jersey Traffic Action from the “Explore All Actions” page and click “Link.” The New Jersey Traffic Action is now available on all Google devices, including the Google Assistant.
- To use New Jersey Traffic, say, “Hey Google, talk to New Jersey Traffic.” Then follow the prompts as with any other Google Assistant.

For more information on how the hands-free New Jersey Traffic feature works on these virtual assistant devices, visit the 511NJ.org Frequently Asked Questions page. Their users can learn how to interact with the features to get the most relevant information, as well as helpful hints to navigate through the virtual assistants.

[Click here to read the full press release about the Virtual Assistant Feature on 511NJ](#)

[Updates from New Jersey Transit](#)



Governor Murphy Celebrates Milestone for Latest Class of NJ Transit Locomotive Engineers

On December 11th Governor Murphy and NJ TRANSIT President and CEO Kevin Corbett recognized NJ TRANSIT’s latest locomotive engineer training class for completing their formal training.

In addition to rebuilding the engineering ranks at the agency, the Administration also announced a \$500 million bond issued by the EDA through a public market transaction to fund the agency’s purchase of 600 new buses and 17 new locomotives. Replacing the aging buses and locomotives, some of which are more than 50 years old, will lower the average age of the fleet, resulting in less frequent breakdowns and failures across the system.

“Over the course of the last decade, NJ TRANSIT lost many of the employees that previously made it a national leader in commuter rail,” said Governor Phil Murphy. “With the eleven future engineers we are celebrating, as well as the additional investments in the system we are announcing today, we are well on our way to the resurgence of NJ TRANSIT and providing a mass-transit system, our riders can be proud of.”

The completion of this class will help fulfill the agency's continued commitment to hiring and training more locomotive engineers. This graduating class will bring the total number of new engineers that have joined NJ TRANSIT since the beginning of 2018 to 30. The next engineer training class is set to graduate in late January.

This pilot class is the third class of trainees this year to complete the formal classroom instruction and pass extensive testing, including a final exam of nearly 800 questions. The soon-to-be graduates are near the end of the final stage of their training after beginning on October 15, 2018.

NJ TRANSIT has increased the number of engineer training classes to a record-setting eight classes running concurrently. That brings the total number of engineer trainees enrolled in the program to more than one hundred. The newest class of locomotive engineer trainees started on October 9, 2019.

NJ to Borrow \$500 Million for Transit

ttnews.com Dec 10, 2019

Governor Phil Murphy's administration approved \$500 million of borrowing without legislative or voter approval to help cash-strapped New Jersey Transit replace decrepit commuter buses and trains.

The state's Economic Development Authority signed off on the financing Dec. 10 at a meeting in Trenton without public discussion. The agency will own the new equipment, while NJ Transit, the nation's largest statewide mass-transportation provider, will make lease payments on the trains and buses.

The arrangement allows Murphy to circumvent New Jersey's constitutional mandate of voter approval for such borrowing. That back channel was used by former Republican Governor Chris Christie in 2017 to fund a \$300 million statehouse renovation. Christie's approach drew an unsuccessful legal challenge by Republican and Democratic lawmakers.

[Click here to read the full article](#)

\$500M Plan to Buy NJ Transit Buses and Locomotives Will Skirt Voters

The financial maneuver would free up funds to buy 600 buses and 17 locomotives for the struggling, cash-strapped agency

njspottlight.com Dec 11, 2019

Gov. Phil Murphy's administration is moving ahead with a plan to help New Jersey Transit buy new trains and buses, using \$500 million from an upcoming bond sale that sidesteps the need for a voter referendum.

The proposed debt issue won unanimous approval from the state Economic Development Authority's board Tuesday during a vote held in Trenton, marking the first formal step in a process that will culminate with a planned public sale of tax-exempt bonds sometime next month.

[Click here to read the full article](#)

NJ Transit Fares Poorly in Survey of Bus Riders

More than half of the riders report serious reliability issues, saying their buses are late three times a week

NJTV NEWS DEC 11, 2019

A new survey by an influential mass-transit advocacy group paints a dismal picture of the performance of NJ Transit's bus system in its key mission — reliably getting people where they need to be at the time listed on the schedule.

Some 60% of riders on the state's primary bus network told the Tri-State Transportation Campaign that their bus runs late at least three times a week, a problem that can blast a hole in their budgets and even threaten their jobs.

[Click here to read the full article](#)

Updates from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration



U.S. Department of Transportation
**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

Roadway Fatalities Down by 2.2% in First 9 Months of 2019

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration released highway crash fatality data for the first nine months of 2019, showing a reduction of 2.2% compared to the first nine months of 2018.

"This is positive news, but more work remains to be done to make our roads safer for everyone," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao.

An estimated 26,730 people died in motor vehicle traffic crashes through September 30, making the third quarter of 2019 the eighth consecutive year-to-year quarterly decline in fatalities since the fourth quarter of 2017. Preliminary data from the Federal Highway Administration shows vehicle miles traveled in the first 9 months of 2019 increased by approximately 24 billion miles, about a 1% increase. The fatality rate for the first 9 months of 2019 decreased to 1.10 fatalities per 100 million VMT, down from the 1.13 fatalities in the first 9 months of 2018.

"Dangerous actions continue to plague drivers, such as [speeding](#), [distraction](#), and driving under the influence of [drugs](#) or [alcohol](#)," said NHTSA Acting Administrator James Owens. "The path forward calls for a combination of policies, research, and action that requires a committed and sustained effort from State, Local, and Federal Governments; and from highway safety partners, schools, and communities – all committed to reducing fatalities on our Nation's roads."

NHTSA is continuing to gather and finalize data on crash fatalities for 2018 and 2019, using information from police reports and other sources.

For more information, view the [2019 Early Estimate Traffic Safety Facts Crash Stats](#).

Crash Report Sampling System CRSS Analytical User's Manual 2016- 2018

The Analytical User's Manual is updated annually to reflect necessary revisions and ensure quality data collection and analysis. CRSS data elements evolve based on any number of factors, including the needs of end-users. Changes are made with careful consideration and collaboration among key stakeholders. Below are the notable changes, challenges, reclassifications or other issues the analyst should be aware of for this year.

The evolution of the coding practices in the crash sampling system is documented in the [Crash Report Sampling System CRSS Analytical User's Manual 2016-2018](#), a report from the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. This report identifies changes in the data elements and describes how to use the data.

NHTSA: Estimating traffic crashes

The number and type of crashes are reported in [Police-Reported Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes in 2018](#), a summary from the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. This summary provides an estimate of the number of motor vehicle traffic crashes in 2018 and compares them with the corresponding estimates from 2017.

[Click here to download the NHTSA report](#)



Super Bowl LIV Impaired Driving Prevention Campaign

Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk

The Super Bowl is America's most-watched national sporting event. On Super Bowl Sunday, **February 2nd**, there will be lots of game day socializing that may include drinking. That's why NHTSA is urging football fans to plan a safe ride home.

NHTSA's **Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk** campaign encourages people to make plans ahead of time that will prevent them from getting behind the wheel of a vehicle after drinking. Driving drunk could result in injury or death for you or others on the road.

[Click here to download the nhtsa materials](#)





Vehicle Safety Recalls Week - March 2 to 6, 2020

NHTSA manages vehicle safety recalls, sets vehicle safety standards, and requires automakers to recall vehicles that have safety defects or do not meet those standards. If your car has a recall, get it fixed - it could save a life. Also, check your car for recalls at least twice a year, and sign up to receive alerts about new recalls at nhtsa.gov/recalls

Recalls Campaign Research Report

NHTSA wants to increase awareness and utilization of its nhtsa.gov/recalls website and has developed an online campaign to help build awareness and usage among the general population, including the auto-buying public and select target audiences. Click [here](#) to read this report.

[Click here to go to the NHTSA site where you can download campaign materials](#)

How can you **stay safe**?

If your car has a recall, **GET IT FIXED. IT COULD SAVE A LIFE.** Also, check your car for recalls at least twice a year, and sign up to receive alerts about new recalls at nhtsa.gov.



Visit nhtsa.gov for more information.

Why is addressing your **safety recall** important?

25% Recalls are prompted by significant safety concerns. Even so, **A QUARTER OF CARS** are never repaired.



That means potentially millions of vehicles with life-threatening safety defects are still on the road.



Visit nhtsa.gov for more information.



Saint Patrick's Day Impaired Driving Prevention - March 17, 2020

Saint Patrick's Day is one of the deadliest holidays on our nation's roads. During the 2014-2018 St. Patrick's Day holiday period, 249 lives were lost due to drunk-driving crashes.

In 2018 alone, 73 people were killed in drunk-driving crashes over the St. Patrick's Day holiday period. These accounted for 39% of all traffic fatalities during the St. Patrick's Day holiday period.

Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving

Currently, only 2020 updated earned media assets and 2019 campaign creative materials are available in TSM and will continue to be available throughout the 2020 campaign period.

Coming soon:

- Updated infographics
- Updated social media messaging

Click [here](#) and get your campaign materials now.





2020 NHTSA Communications Calendar 2020 Highway Traffic Safety Events Calendar

Click [here](#) to get a head start on your planning to align with NHTSA's traffic safety campaigns for 2020.

While the 2020 NHTSA Communications Calendar is substantially similar to the 2019 calendar, they are excited to announce a few new opportunities:

- **Vehicle Safety Recall Awareness Week March 2-6, 2020**
Consider participating in VIN check-up events, and distributing NHTSA vehicle safety recall awareness campaign materials are available on [TSM](#).
- **Heatstroke Awareness Day May 1, 2020**
Along with our safety partners, NHTSA is moving Heatstroke Awareness Day from July 31 to May 1, allowing us to get the message out earlier in the season. In 2020, we hope to partner with additional stakeholders who can help raise awareness through the distribution of our new "[Park. Look. Lock.](#)" campaign assets.
- **Pedestrian Safety Month October 2020**
NHTSA has designated October as [Pedestrian Safety Month](#). Please consider engaging in concentrated safety messaging activity throughout the month.

Copies of the 2020 Communications Calendar and the 2020 Highway Traffic Safety Events Calendar are in the Appendix of this newsletter.

[Updates from the Federal Highway Administration](#)



Highway-Rail Crossing Handbook - Third Edition

The Highway-Rail Crossing Handbook, 3rd Edition (Handbook), has been prepared to disseminate current practices and requirements for developing engineering treatments for highway-rail grade crossings (referred to herein as "crossings").

The Handbook is intended to provide practitioners of all levels of knowledge and experience with critical background information and "noteworthy practices" consistent with the 2009 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways (MUTCD) and more recent guidance developed by recognized subject matter experts.

This edition constitutes a substantial update to, and revision of the 2007 Handbook and efforts have been made to reorganize the contents. This edition includes "hotlinks" to facilitate navigation and access external information available on the web.

[Click here to go to the fhwa Highway-Rail Crossing Handbook](#)

FHWA: Travel time reliability

The concept of travel time reliability is explored in [*Does Travel Time Reliability Matter?*](#), a report from the U.S. Federal Highway Administration. It defines and measures reliability and describes the costs of an unreliable system to businesses, the traveling public, and local governments. This report derives information from the Strategic Highway Research Program, SHRP2, created by AASHTO and TRB.

[Click here to download the fhwa publication](#)

Updates from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration



FMCSA Increases Random Drug Test Rate to 50% for 2020

ttnews.com Dec 27, 2019

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration is increasing the minimum annual percentage rate for random controlled substances testing for truck drivers.

According to a document published in the Federal Register on Dec. 27, the agency is increasing the minimum annual percentage rate for random drug testing from 25% of the average number of driver positions to 50% of the average number of driver positions. This change will take effect on Jan. 1, 2020.

[Click here to read the full article](#)



FRA Launches Web Portal to Report Blocked Railroad Crossings

On December 20th, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) announced it had established a new, dedicated webpage for the public and law enforcement to report blocked highway-rail grade crossings. Blocked crossings occur when stopped trains impede the flow of motor vehicle or pedestrian traffic at railroad tracks for extended periods.

Communities have long dealt with the issue of blocked crossings, and FRA is now seeking broad public input to understand the scope of the problem better and engage with affected parties to identify potential solutions.

"Railroads, states, and local jurisdictions are best positioned to address blocked highway-rail grade crossings and I've asked them to work together to minimize unwanted impacts," FRA Administrator Ronald L. Batory said. "FRA expects that collecting this data will help us identify where chronic problems exist and better assess the underlying causes and overall impacts of blocked crossings -- locally, regionally and nationwide."

Blocked crossings pose potential safety risks, specifically in locations where trains routinely hinder roadway and pedestrian movement for extended periods. Frustrated drivers may attempt to clear the crossing before a train arrives. Likewise, pedestrians may be tempted to crawl between stopped railcars. Further, blocked crossings make people late for work, school, and appointments, and contribute to roadway congestion.

The new FRA Blocked Crossing webpage, www.fra.dot.gov/blockedcrossings, requests specific information from users reporting blocked crossings, including date, time, location, and duration. The agency expects it will take an average of 3 minutes for users to complete the report. FRA notes that this should only be done in a manner that is consistent with the safe operation of a vehicle.

The FRA will use the information collected to gain a more complete picture of where, when, and for how long such obstructions occur at the nation's approximately 130,000 public grade crossings, and what impacts result from this. The FRA will share the information with stakeholders, using it to help facilitate local solutions to blocked crossing issues.

DID YOU KNOW - There were 36,560 people killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes on U.S. roadways during 2018, a 2.4-percent decrease from 37,473 in 2017.

Updates from the Federal Aviation Administration



Testing Testing 1..2..3..Recreational Drone Flyer Test is One Step Closer

The Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) recreational drone flyer test will be an important opportunity to educate recreational flyers about the [rules of the sky](#) as we continue to integrate drones into our nation's airspace safely.

A law passed in [2018](#) requires that recreational drone flyers pass an online aeronautical knowledge and safety test and carry proof that they have passed the test with them while operating a drone.

In September, the FAA posted a [request for information \(RFI\)](#) asking the drone community to submit suggestions on how best to administer the new recreational knowledge test.

Based on responses to the RFI, the organizations below have been invited to make recommendations on the administration of the test. These recommendations will assist the agency in developing requirements that potential test administrators must meet. These requirements and any associated selection criteria for test administrators will be announced on [FAA.gov](#).

- Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
- Drone Launch Academy Southeastern University
- Science Applications International Corporation
- DJI
- Horizon Hobby, LLC.
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Coach
- King Schools
- Unmanned Safety Institute
- First Person View Freedom Coalition
- Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
- Academy of Model Aeronautics; and
- Drone Racing League.

FAA Issues Remote Identification Rulemaking for Drones

The remote ID is the ability of a UAS in flight to provide identifying information that can be received by other parties. The Remote ID Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) is now available for public display in the Federal Register. The NPRM is scheduled to be published and open for public comments in the Federal Register on December 31, 2019.

The Remote Identification proposed rule provides a framework for remote identification of all UAS operating in the airspace of the United States. The rule would facilitate the collection and storage of certain data such as identity, location, and altitude regarding an unmanned aircraft and its control station.

Once published, the FAA will solicit comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. The FAA posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to <https://www.regulations.gov>. The docket number is **FAA-2019-1100**.

[Updates from the US Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration](#)



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Pipeline and
Hazardous Materials
Safety Administration**

Federal Officials Will Let LNG Be Shipped by Rail to Gibbstown (NJ) Port

The Philadelphia Inquirer Dec 9, 2019

The Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has approved a request by Energy Transport Solutions LLC to move LNG, produced from fracking Pennsylvania shale gas wells, to the Repauno Port and Rail Terminal in Greenwich Township in Gloucester County.

The special permit would allow the company to move as many as 100 rail cars of fuel a day from a plant in Wyalusing, Pa., to the marine terminal, built on the site of the former DuPont Repauno Works in New Jersey. LNG is made from natural gas that has been cooled to -260 degrees to convert it into a liquid and would be carried in double-walled insulated tank cars specifically designed to transport cryogenic materials.

[Click here to read the full article](#)

[Updates from the National Transportation Safety Board](#)



NTSB Podcast: Tempe, Arizona, Uber Vehicle and Pedestrian Crash

In this episode of Behind-the-Scene @NTSB, Highway Crash Investigators, Ensar Becic, and Mike Fox talk about the 2018 collision between a vehicle controlled by a developmental automated driving system and a pedestrian in Tempe, Arizona. They explore the findings and safety recommendations that came out of the investigation, as well as the strengths and limitations of automated vehicles and how it impacts highway safety and the importance of safety management systems.

[Click here to listen to the ntsb podcast](#)



Bicyclist Safety on US Roadways: Crash Risks and Countermeasures

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has issued its Safety Research Report, *Bicyclist Safety on U.S. Roadways: Crash Risks and Countermeasures*. The report includes safety recommendations addressing roadway and intersection design, helmet use, and more.

It has been 47 years since the NTSB analyzed bicyclist safety in the country. In 2017 alone, 806 bicyclists died in crashes with motor vehicles on US roadways, which was comparable to the deaths resulting from railroad or marine accidents and more than twice the number of deaths resulting from aviation accidents in the same year. This NTSB safety research report updates our understanding of bicyclist safety by examining the prevalence and risk factors of bicycle crashes involving motor vehicles on US roadways and assessing the most applicable countermeasures. Recently, several safety issues involving bicyclists and other vulnerable road users have emerged in NTSB reports.

Bicyclists, like pedestrians and motorcyclists, are considered vulnerable road users because they are unprotected by an enclosed vehicle compartment, leaving them more vulnerable to injury or death in the event of a crash. Bicyclists involved in crashes with motor vehicles are more likely to sustain severe injuries than bicyclists involved in any other crash type.

This research focuses on bicycle crashes involving motor vehicles and specifically examines existing and emerging countermeasures designed to improve bicyclist safety on public roads, such as roadway and infrastructure designs to separate bicycles from motor vehicle traffic; rider and bicycle conspicuity enhancements; vehicle technologies designed to reduce collisions between motorists and bicyclists when they are sharing the road; and protective equipment for reducing the severity of injuries to bicyclists involved in crashes with motor vehicles.

[Click here to read the full NTSB press release](#)

[Click here to download the ntsb research report](#)

Updates from the US Department of Justice



THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

New Jersey Pharmaceutical Company Admits to Price Fixing & False Claims Act Violations

Rising Pharmaceuticals Inc., a generic pharmaceutical company headquartered in New Jersey, with offices and facilities in Saddle Brook, Somerset, and East Brunswick, was charged for conspiring to fix prices and allocate customers for a generic hypertension drug, the Department of Justice announced on December 3rd. The company agreed to pay over \$3 million in criminal penalties, restitution, and civil damages.

According to a one-count felony charge filed today in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, from about April 2014 until at least September 2015, Rising participated in a criminal antitrust conspiracy with a competing manufacturer of generic drugs and its executives to fix prices and allocate customers for Benazepril HCTZ, a medicine used to treat hypertension. This charge is the fourth in the Department of Justice's Antitrust Division's ongoing criminal investigation in the generic pharmaceuticals industry.

[Click here to read the full justice dept press release](#)

Updates from the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization



South Jersey
Transportation
Planning Organization

The South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization (SJTPO) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) covering Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, and Salem Counties in southern New Jersey.

Comment on the Draft FY 2021 Work Program

SJTPO is accepting comments on its UPWP from Monday, December 16, 2019, until Friday, January 31, 2020, at 5:00 PM local time. This document details the federally-funded transportation planning efforts SJTPO will support from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021.

Click here to download the [Draft FY 2021 UPWP](#)

Hardcopies have also been made available at the SJTPO office and the [State Depository Libraries](#) in the four-county SJTPO region.

Comments must be submitted in writing.

Emailed to upwp@sjtpo.org;

Faxed to (856) 794-2549;

Direct messaged to SJTPO's [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#) accounts; or

Mailed to: UPWP Public Comments
c/o Jennifer Marandino
782 South Brewster Road, Unit B6
Vineland, NJ 08361

WINTER TRAVEL TIPS - Motorists should keep a basic emergency kit in their vehicles that include non-perishable food and water, a cell phone charger, weather-related items such as a blanket, shovel, ice scraper, rain gear, and any specialized supplies such as baby or pet care items. Visit ReadyNJ.gov for more information about emergency kits and preparedness.

What's Happening in the World of Automated Vehicles, Artificial Intelligence, and Electric Vehicles



Tesla on Autopilot Crashes Into Troop Car, Driver Was Checking On Dog

[Connecticut State Police – Facebook Page](#)

During the early morning hours of Saturday, December 7, 2019, Connecticut State Troopers out of Troop G-Bridgeport were on the scene of a disabled vehicle in the left-center lane of Interstate 95 Northbound, North of Exit 15 in the city of Norwalk. The Troopers were stopped behind the disabled motor vehicle with their emergency lights activated, with an additional flare pattern behind the cruisers.

While waiting for a tow truck for the disabled vehicle, a 2018 Tesla Model 3, bearing CT registration MODEL3, traveling northbound, struck the rear of one cruiser and then continued north striking the disabled motor vehicle. The Tesla continued to slowly travel northbound before being stopped several hundred feet ahead by the second Trooper on scene. The operator of the Tesla stated that he had his vehicle on “auto-pilot” and explained that he was checking on his dog which was in the back seat before the collision.

The operator was issued a misdemeanor summons for Reckless Driving and Reckless Endangerment. Fortunately, no one involved was seriously injured, but this incident could have been more severe.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, although several vehicles have some automated capabilities, there are no vehicles currently for sale that are fully automated or self-driving.

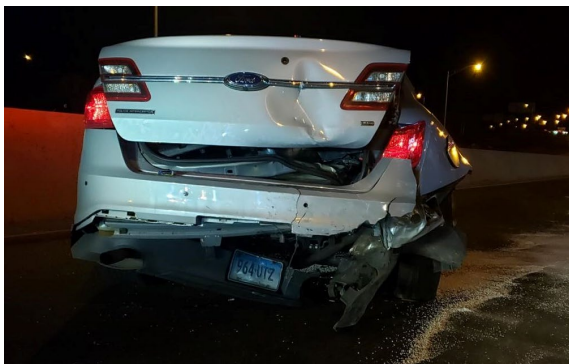


Tesla

Photos courtesy of Conn SP FaceBook Page



Tesla



Troop Car



'Inadequate Safety Culture' Contributed to Uber Automated Test Vehicle Crash - NTSB Calls for Federal Review Process for Automated Vehicle Testing on Public Roads

In November, the National Transportation Safety Board called upon federal regulators to create a review process before allowing automated test vehicles to operate on public roads, based upon the agency's investigation of a fatal collision between an Uber automated test vehicle and a pedestrian.

During a board meeting held to determine the probable cause of the March 18, 2018, Tempe, Arizona crash, the NTSB said an Uber Technologies Inc. division's "inadequate safety culture" contributed to the March 18, 2018, nighttime fatal collision between an Uber automated test vehicle and a pedestrian. The vehicle operator was uninjured in the crash, the pedestrian died.

Uber's Advanced Technologies Group had modified the striking vehicle, a 2017 Volvo XC90, with a proprietary developmental automated driving system. The vehicle's factory-installed forward collision warning and automatic emergency braking systems were deactivated during the operation of the automated system. An Uber ATG operator was in the driver's seat, but the automated system was controlling the vehicle when it struck the pedestrian at 39 mph.

[Click here to read the full ntsb press releases](#)

[Click here to listen to the ntsb podcast about the investigation of the crash](#)

New Jersey Towns Codify Support for Electric Vehicle Bill

Ten New Jersey towns and one county recently passed resolutions in support of electric vehicle legislation that would expand charging infrastructure and rebates for buying electric cars.

East Orange, South Orange, Haddon Heights, West Caldwell, Sayreville, Metuchen, Franklin, Gloucester City, Highland Park, Princeton, and Mercer County passed resolutions calling for legislators to pass Senate Bill 2252/Assembly Bill 4819 during the lame-duck legislative session that began after Election Day and will end on Jan. 13, 2020.

<https://njbiz.com/new-jersey-towns-codify-support-electric-vehicle-bill/>

[Click here to download the current version of S2500/2252](#)

What the Future of Self-Driving Cars Actually Looks Like

Here's how autonomous driving technology works--and which companies are making it a reality.

If you believe the buzz, we're only a couple of years away from being able to hail a self-driving car or take a road trip with no one at the wheel. The timeline isn't evolving for lack of trying; rolling out autonomous driving technology is just really hard. Click the link below to go to use an interactive breakdown by Kevin Ryan to see how it all works and which companies are racing to bring self-driving cars to the masses.

[Click here to go to the inc.com article](#)

What does your car know about you? We hacked a Chevy to find out.

Our privacy experiment found that automakers collect data through hundreds of sensors and an always-on Internet connection. Driving surveillance is becoming hard to avoid.

washingtonpost.com Dec 17, 2019

Behind the wheel, it's nothing but you, the open road, and your car quietly recording your every move.

On a recent drive, a 2017 Chevrolet collected my precise location. It stored my phone's ID and the people I called. It judged my acceleration and braking style, beaming back reports to its maker General Motors over an always-on Internet connection.

Cars have become the most sophisticated computers many of us own, filled with hundreds of sensors. Even older models know an awful lot about you. Many copy over personal data as soon as you plug in a smartphone.

But for the thousands you spend to buy a car, the data it produces doesn't belong to you. My Chevy's dashboard didn't say what the car was recording. It wasn't in the owner's manual. There was no way to download it.

[Click here to read the full washingtonpost article](#)

GM Asks NHTSA to Let It Run Cars with No Steering Wheel or Driver

Built on the platform of the Chevy Bolt EV, these self-driving cars would have no humans and no human controls onboard. GM claims they'd be safer than regular cars.

caranddrive.com Dec 21, 2019

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has confirmed it is talking with General Motors about the automaker's plan to deploy a small fleet of zero-emission autonomous vehicles (ZEAVs) that are unlike anything else on the road today. That's because the vehicles in question would not have a steering wheel.

[Click here to read the full caranddriver article](#)

Uber Just Quietly Bought 600 Acres of Land to Build a New Test Track for Self-Driving Cars in Pittsburgh

Businessinsider.com Dec 26, 2019

- [Uber](#) has purchased nearly 600 acres of land near Pittsburgh to test its [self-driving-car](#) technology, according to [the Pittsburgh Business Times](#).
- The new track will include an observation deck and employ about 200 people, the report said.
- It marks the latest expansion of Uber's self-driving-car ambitions as it competes with rivals like Tesla, Alphabet's Waymo, Ford, and other major players.

[Click here to read the full businessinsider article](#)

Spread the News: Self-Driving Truck Makes Cross-Country Butter Delivery

ttnews

Silicon Valley startup has completed what appears to be the first commercial freight cross-country trip by an autonomous truck, which finished a 2,800-mile-run from Tulare, Calif., to Quakertown, Pa., for Land O'Lakes in less than three days. The trip was smooth like butter, 40,000 pounds of it.

Plus.ai, a 3-year-old company in Cupertino, announced the milestone Dec. 10. A safety driver was aboard the autonomous semi, ready to take the wheel if needed, along with a safety engineer who observed the proceedings.

"We wanted to demonstrate the safety, reliability, and maturity of our overall system," Shawn Kerrigan, co-founder and chief operating officer, said Dec.9. The company's system uses cameras, radar and lidar — laser-based technology to help vehicles determine distance — and handled well the different terrains and weather conditions such as rain and low visibility, he said.

[Click here to read the full ttnews article](#)

Podcast - Will Active Safety Technology Become an Industry Standard?

RoadSigns ttnews.com

Humans are apt to fear change, but when a positive future depends on that certain change, it forces them to adapt. In this episode, we discover that industry adoption of active safety technologies such as air disc brakes, collision mitigation systems and lane departure warnings is on the rise. Fleets that implement these technologies see lower insurance costs, reduced collision rates and significant return on investment.

So how quickly will fleets invest in the latest active safety systems and emerging automated steering features? What is the holdup? Join host Seth Clevenger as he travels to the 2019 North American Commercial Vehicle Show to sit down with experts from Wabco and Bendix to find out what it will take to get fleets to utilize the latest advances in vehicle safety.

In our first episode of RoadSigns, Season Six, we ask: Will Active Safety Technology Become an Industry Standard?

[Click here to hear the full roadsigns podcast](#)

FCC Votes To Move Forward With 5.9 GHz Reallocation Proposal

The Federal Communications Commission voted unanimously at a [December 12 hearing](#) to move forward with an effort to open up the 5.9 GHz wireless safety spectrum to non-transportation use. FCC commissioners argued their decision was prompted by the "slow deployment" of dedicated short-range communications or DSRC technology, the emergence of new transportation and other communication systems, and escalating demand for unlicensed operations like Wi-Fi.

[Click here to read the full aashtojournal article](#)

Miscellaneous Traffic Safety Points of Interest



New Study Tracks Officers' Response to Stress During Calls for Service

It is widely understood that the body can automatically prepare us to respond to threats. Not just actual threats, but those that are perceived or merely expected. Ideally, when this process is engaged, the nervous system is activated, and we benefit from heightened senses, faster decision-making, improved mental function, and increased strength.

But when this acute stress response is “maladaptive” or prolonged, our health can suffer over the long term. And in the short term, under extreme stress—attention, perception, decision-making, and even physical performance can be severely impaired.

For those committed to public safety, learning to recognize, manage, and operate under extreme stress is critical. For the police, that process begins by understanding when and how they experience stress.

[Click here to read the full forcescience report](#)

Hardcore Drunk Driving Law Enforcement Guide:

A Resource for Enforcement Challenges, Effective Strategies, and Model Programs

There is one class of DWI offenders who continues to drive while intoxicated with disregard to the legal, social, and personal ramifications. These offenders are known as hardcore drunk drivers (chronic repeat DWI offenders and persistent DWI offenders). These hardcore drunk drivers are responsible for a disproportionate number of traffic injuries and death.

The Century Council and the Institute of Police Technology and Management convened a group of practitioners and administrators with unique skills and knowledge about enforcement and prosecution of DWI offenders. Their charge was to develop the “Hardcore Drunk Driving Law Enforcement Guide: A Resource for Enforcement Challenges, Effective Strategies, and Model Programs.”

This guide combines effective enforcement strategies with knowledge concerning the unique challenges posed by the repeat DWI offender where it is needed most: on the street. To that end, the panel identified particular issues faced by law enforcement officers in investigating incidents involving hardcore drunk drivers, practical uses of technology to enhance these investigations, model programs and operational strategies, and suggestions for government grant opportunities.

The Guide covers:

- The Hardcore Drunk Driving Issue
- How to Identify a Hardcore Drunk Driver
- Technological Tools to Identify a Hardcore DWI Offender
- After the Traffic Stop
- Blood Alcohol Testing in DWI Cases
- High-Visibility Enforcement
- Strategies and Additional Resources / Links

[Click here to download a copy of the HCDD Law Enforcement Guide](#)

A Witness in the Cab

Fleets Utilize Video from Onboard Cameras to Improve Safety, Reduce Litigation Risk

ttnews.com Dec 6, 2019

Like law enforcement, a growing number of trucking companies, cameras have become an increasingly common sight in truck cabs.

In 2014, fleets had onboard video subscriptions covering about 300,000 trucks, said Bart De Muynck, a research vice president at Gartner. That figure has grown to about 1.2 million today and is expected to reach 1.3 million to 1.5 million in 2021.

To meet this demand, technology suppliers have introduced a wide variety of video options, ranging from basic dashcams to sophisticated video-based safety systems and analytics platforms. Some systems utilize only forward-facing cameras that record the road ahead, while others also offer a driver-facing camera as well as other cameras around the vehicle to capture side and rear views.

“Law enforcement is more likely to believe our driver’s story when they make out the report when they know we have the camera,” Stickling said. In the event of an accident, video can help provide clarity.

[Click here to read the full article](#)

Internet Deliveries Making Streets Unsafe

Findlaw.com Dec 3, 2019

For many consumers, online shopping is about as good as shopping gets. From the comfort of your home, you can browse a seemingly infinite number of products on your phone or computer until you find the exact thing you are looking for, and then you can have it delivered to your home, often within the period of a few days.

Over the past five years, delivery vehicles have been involved in hundreds of vehicle accidents. Amazon, arguably the single largest employer of delivery vehicles and delivery services, is a defendant in over a hundred lawsuits regarding delivery vehicle accidents, although determining liability for those accidents is not always a simple task.

[Click here to read the full findlaw.com article](#)

Ransomware 101: 3 Key Ways to Get Started Combating Ransomware

government technology

Ransomware is stealing headlines; even some police agencies have experienced this. And there is a reason for all the hype. The malware attack that takes over computer networks is a growing problem for organizations of all sizes. And "bad guys" are turning ransomware into big business. The FBI estimates the attacks to be a \$1 billion industry as of 2016. So what can organizations do to protect themselves?

[Click here to download the report](#)

Investigating Safety Impact of Center Line Rumble Strips, Lane Conversion, Roundabout, and J-Turn Features on Louisiana Highways

The effectiveness of crash countermeasures is evaluated in this report from the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

Over the past several years, Louisiana has installed quite a few relatively new crash countermeasures, such as centerline rumble strips (CLRS) on rural two-lane highways, restriping four-lane undivided roadways to three-lane or five-lane roadways with a center lane for left turns, restricting median openings on high-speed corridors (RCUT), and roundabouts. Evaluating the effectiveness of these crash countermeasures is crucial for the state highway safety improvement programs. According to the results of this study, these four countermeasures are generally cost-effective and successful in reducing crashes, particularly severe crashes.

[Click here to download a copy of the report](#)

This Is What Happens to Your Car When You Hit A Speed Bump

jalopnik.com Dec 11, 2019

Most drivers are familiar with the gut-dropping feeling of running full-tilt over a speed bump. If you're anything like most people, you just clench your teeth, scream inside, and then immediately pretend that nothing happened, and everything is fine. Well, friends, you're about to see what happens to your car—in slow motion—when you go crashing over a bump, and it's just as jarring as you imagined.

[Click here to read the full article and see the videos](#)

Waze is Now a Speed Trap App & Looks Like Google Maps is Too

We have discussed before how the Waze traffic app has caused problems by routing large numbers of cars down sleepy residential streets to avoid traffic jams. Now they are making more trouble.

They have now added a feature that can warn drivers about DWI checkpoints and radar/lidar speed enforcement spots. The NYPD is not amused and has sent a cease-and-desist letter to them: "The posting of such information for public consumption is irresponsible since it only serves to aid impaired and intoxicated drivers to evade checkpoints and encourage reckless driving."

Waze was recently purchased by Google and there are reports of similar warnings of DWI and speed checkpoints showing up in Google Maps in some areas. When challenged by the NYPD, Google's response is interesting: "We believe that informing drivers about upcoming speed traps allows them to be more careful and make safer decisions when they're on the road."

"Huh?"

Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery (CBOB)

The CBOB Nomination Period is now open

The nomination period for the Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery (CBOB) is now open until February 15, 2020. This award honors exceptional acts of bravery in the line of duty by federal, state, and local law enforcement officers.

Every day, federal, state, and local law enforcement officers engage in exceptional acts of bravery while in the line of duty. Often, such acts place the officers involved at personal risk of injury or result in their sustaining a physical injury.

To honor these acts of bravery, Congress passed the [Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Act of 2008 \(Public Law 110-298\)](#), creating the Federal Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery and the State and Local Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery. The act establishes an award to honor exceptional acts of bravery in the line of duty by federal, state, and local law enforcement officers. The medals are awarded annually by the U.S. Attorney General and are presented by the recipients' Congressional representatives.

To meet the definition of an act of bravery, nominees for the Congressional Badge of Bravery must have either:

- Sustained a physical injury while –
 - Engaged in the lawful duties of the individual, and
 - Performing an act characterized as bravery by the agency head who makes the nomination, and
 - Being at personal risk; or

- Although not injured, performed an act characterized as bravery by the agency head who makes the nomination that placed the individual at risk of serious physical injury or death.

[Click here to read more about the CBOB](#)

Access the [Nomination Form](#) to submit your nominations today.



Winter weather hazards and precautions. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) shares a variety of tips to keep in mind this winter. Tips include winter driving, snow shoveling, getting stranded in a vehicle, and more.

[Click here to read the tips](#)



BPU Introduces Grant Program to Help Municipalities Purchase Electric Vehicles

The NJ Board of Public Utilities (BPU) [announced a grant program](#) aimed at helping local governments with statewide efforts to transition to clean energy. The Clean Fleet Electric Vehicle Incentive Program allows a local government applicant to apply for a maximum of two eligible electric vehicles and one dual-port level 2 charging station. Incentives include a \$4,000 grant towards the purchase of an electric vehicle, or \$1,500 toward the purchase of the charging station.

The application deadline for the program is April 15, 2020, or until all of the funding is awarded. Grants will be awarded on a rolling basis, with priority given to applications that meet certain criteria. For more information, please visit the BPU [website](#) to review the Clean Fleet Electric Vehicle Incentive Program Application. **Or Contact:** Frank Marshall, Esq., League Staff Attorney, fmarshall@njlm.org, 609-695-3481 x137.

Legal Update



Some information in this newsletter is courtesy of:
Muni-Mail, 2000 Hamilton Ave. Hamilton, NJ
Kenneth Vercammen & Associates, 2053 Woodbridge Ave, Edison, NJ www.njlaws.com
<https://www.justia.com/>
<https://law.justia.com/>
Oyez
Legal Information Institute, 477 Myron Taylor Hall, Cornell Law School, Ithaca, NY
Police Chief Magazine
J. Harris Academy of Police Training www.JHARRISTRAINING.com
Jason T. Komninos Esq <https://www.jasonkomninos.com/>

The information in this newsletter does not constitute legal advice and does not establish an attorney-client relationship. If you need legal advice, please contact an attorney directly.

DWI Plea Bargaining Update – in Cassidy Cases

The New Jersey Supreme Court has ordered a relaxation on the absolute ban on plea bargaining drunk-driving cases that involve breath test results taken from Alcotest instruments that were calibrated by the trooper at the center of the State v. Cassidy controversy. According to the order, there are approximately 13,000 such cases in New Jersey. This order will allow many of these cases to be resolved in municipal court without further post-conviction relief activities or other motions by way of plea agreements.

A copy of the Supreme Court relaxation order is [here](#).

Assembly Passes Bill to Provide Retirement Allowance to Police and Firefighters After 20 Years of Service – Now on to the Senate.....

The [bill passed the General Assembly](#) on Monday, December 16th; the vote was 71-0-6.

Assembly bill [A-6024](#), sponsored by Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo, is intended to provide members of the Police and Firemen's Retirement System with an annual retirement benefit of 50 percent of their final compensation after 20 years of service was approved by the Assembly Appropriations Committee and passed onto the General Assembly.

The benefit would be available to all PFRS members regardless of enrollment date or age at retirement.

An identical Senate bill, [S-4297](#), was introduced on December 12th in the Senate and referred to Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee.

[Click here to read the full insidersnj article about the bill](#)

Governor Murphy Signs Legislation Eliminating the Use of Mandatory Driver's License Suspensions as a Penalty for Certain Non-Moving Offenses

On December 20th Governor Murphy signed [S1080](#) (P.L.2019, c.276), which eliminates the use of mandatory driver's license suspensions as a penalty for certain non-moving offenses.

S1080 eliminates mandatory driver's license suspensions for certain non-moving violations. The law also repeals the driver's license suspension required for criminal convictions related to the possession or sale of illegal drugs and removes the provision that a person's driver's license is suspended by operation of law upon the issuance of a child support-related warrant.

[*Click here to download a copy of the new law*](#)

Governor Murphy Signs Legislation Expanding Access to Driver's Licenses

On December 19th Governor Murphy signed a new law ([A4743](#)) to expand access to driver's licenses. The bill will allow more New Jersey residents to earn a license while decreasing the number of uninsured drivers on the road, improving roadway safety. New Jersey joins thirteen other states, including California, New York, and Utah, and the District of Columbia, in allowing residents to obtain driver's licenses regardless of immigration status.

"Expanding access to driver's licenses is critical for the safety of New Jerseyans and a step toward building a stronger and fairer New Jersey for all," said Governor Murphy. "Allowing residents, the opportunity to obtain driver's licenses regardless of their immigration status will decrease the number of uninsured drivers and increase safety on our roads. I thank my partners in the Legislature for sending this important bill to my desk."

"This law allows hundreds of thousands of immigrants on our roads to be trained, tested, licensed and insured," said Motor Vehicle Commission Chief Administrator Sue Fulton. "Those who pass our driver testing and meet our strict identity requirements will be able to drive to work, school, doctor's appointments, and other activities, without risking the break-up of their families."

"Studies have shown that similar legislation in other states has had positive results for public and highway traffic safety and we look forward to similar benefits here in New Jersey," said New Jersey State Police Superintendent Colonel Patrick Callahan.

[*Click here to download the new law*](#)

Governor Murphy Signs Major Criminal Justice Reform Legislation

Murphy Signs One of the Most Progressive Expungement Reforms in the Nation and Restores Voting Rights to Over 80,000 Residents on Probation or Parole

On December 18th Governor Murphy signed two major pieces of legislation to reform New Jersey's criminal justice system as part of his Second Chance Agenda. The bills, which will reform New Jersey's expungement process to be one of the most progressive in the nation and restore voting rights to those on probation or parole, will help give individuals entangled in the criminal justice system the opportunity to fully participate in our society and democracy.

S4154 creates a petition process for "clean slate" expungement for residents who have not committed an offense in ten years and who have not been convicted of the most serious crimes. The bill also requires the State to implement an automated clean slate expungement system, which will be developed by a task force charged with studying the technological, fiscal, and practical issues and challenges associated with such a system. Further, the bill requires that low-level marijuana convictions be sealed upon the disposition of a case, preventing those convictions from being used against those individuals in the future. It also makes numerous other changes to existing expungement procedures, including the creation of an e-filing system that would eliminate filing fees to petition for an expungement.

A5823 restores voting rights to New Jersey residents on probation or parole, a category that currently comprises over 80,000 individuals. Sixteen other states, including Indiana, Montana, and Utah, currently restore voting rights to individuals on probations or parole, and Governor Murphy has called for New Jersey to join this group of states for several years. The bill will take effect 90 days after signature.



Audio Recordings US Supreme Court Cases – Arguments & Opinions

New York State Rifle & Pistol Assn., Inc. v. City of New York

Docket Number: 18-280

Date Argued: 12/02/19

On Dec. 2, the U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments in one of the most highly anticipated cases of the current term. It's a decision that has the potential to greatly expand Second Amendment rights.

[Click here to hear the audio file](#)



[What's Happening In the News ???](#)

AASHTO Joins Effort To Get Federal Funding For Automated Work Zone Enforcement

aashtojournal.org Dec 27, 2019

The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials joined eight other organizations as signatories [to the letter](#) sent on December 20 to Congressional committee leaders that seek the allowance of federal funding for automated speed enforcement of work zones.

Most work zone fatalities and injuries can be attributed to speeding, the letter argued, noting that in 2017 nearly 800 people were killed and 38,900 injured in work zone-related vehicle crashes.

“Speed zone enforcement in work zones is effective at reducing speed, but when carried out by a law enforcement officer, that person is placed at risk, too,” the letter – authored by the National Safety Council – argued.

The use of automated enforcement systems in work zones can reduce speeding and by extension the crashes, fatalities, and injuries it causes – noting that Maryland witnessed an 80 percent reduction in work zone speeding violations and a nearly 50 percent reduction in work zone fatalities by deploying automated enforcement technology.

[Click here to read the full aashtojournal article](#)

Trucks vs. Bridges: Dangerous and Costly

pewtrusts.org Dec 6, 2019

Bridge strikes occur all over the country when trucks or their loads are too tall to pass under highway bridges and overpasses. They damage valuable infrastructure, create epic traffic jams and can be hazardous for other drivers who may be pelted with fallen debris or forced to swerve into another car.

“Bridge strikes are potentially catastrophic,” said Darrin Roth, a vice president at the American Trucking Associations, a trade group. “There have been bridges that have been brought down or severely damaged to the point they have to be replaced.”

To prevent them, more states and cities are using infrared sensors and lasers that detect tall vehicles and warn drivers to turn around or take another route.

[Click here to read the pewtrusts article](#)

Seven Cities in a Snowy State Ban Snowballs. Now One is Poised to Reverse Course

routefifty.com Dec 6, 2019

A handful of Wisconsin cities have identically worded ordinances that ban snowball fights in public places. After going viral for their policy, officials in Wausau are ready to change it.

[Click here to read the full routefifty article](#)

Department of Justice Investigating the Maker of Controversial Guardrail

nbcwashington.com Dec 12, 2019

The maker of the X-LITE, Lindsay Transportation Solutions, that developed, manufactured, and marketed a guardrail end terminal being blamed on many deaths is under investigation by the federal government.

In its [annual report to investors](#), Lindsay Corporation disclosed the following:

In June 2019, the Company was informed by letter that the Department of Justice, Civil Division, and U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of New York, with the assistance of the Department of Transportation, Office of Inspector General, are conducting an investigation of the Company relating to the Company's X-Lite end terminal and potential violations of the federal civil False Claims Act.

[Click here to read the full nbcwashington article](#)

Electric Bikes Are Blurring The Line Between Bicycles And Motorcycles

jalopnik.com Dec 14, 2019

Remember those old mopeds, well the new fad is electric bicycles. These "bikes" are getting bigger, faster, and more powerful and leaving those mopeds in the dust. Now even the line between electric bikes and motorcycles is starting to get blurry.

The author of this article bought an electric bicycle that was limited by the maker to have a top speed of 20 mph, in five minutes with a screwdriver he turned it into a 46 mph electric bicycle.

[Click here to read the full jalonik.com article](#)



sun glare

The low sun angle and possibility of fresh fallen snow means that even when the forecast is bright and sunny, your drive may be hazardous.

safety tips

- Slow down
- Use sunglasses and your car's visor
- Leave plenty of distance between you and other vehicles

"Sneaky" Winter Hazards

The winter season brings many weather events that can "sneak" up on you. These are weather hazards that cause big impacts and make travel difficult without making big news.

weather.gov 

Training Events



DCJ - Police Traffic RADAR Instructor Refresher Courses

January 10, 2020	John H. Stamler Police Academy
February 21, 2020	Camden County College Police Academy
March 20, 2020	Atlantic County Police Training Center
April 10, 2020	Ocean County Police Academy
May 8, 2020	John H. Stamler Police Academy
May 15, 2020	Essex County Police Academy
September 18, 2020	Morris County Police Academy
October 9, 2020	Ocean County Police Academy
November 20, 2020	Monmouth County Police Academy

Times: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Cost: Free

Presented by the NJ Division of Criminal Justice, this is a one-day refresher course that is required for RADAR instructors to maintain their certification. A radar instructor/operator certificate is valid for three years. In the third year, before expiration, each instructor must attend a refresher course.

Instructors no longer receive notification for when they are due for recertification. It is the responsibility of each instructor to know when their certification expires and to renew the instructor certification before expiration.

Registration must be made on the DCJ General Course Registration Form and faxed to DCJ at (732) 974-7551. A copy of the registration form can be found in the appendix of this newsletter and the following link:

[Click here to download the DCJ RADAR Instructor Refresher Registration Form](#)





NJDHTS Grant Workshops for 2020

Dates

January 7, 2020
January 8, 2020
January 9, 2020

Locations:

Middlesex County Fire Academy, Sayreville, NJ
Morris County Police Academy, Parsippany, NJ
Anthony Canale Training Academy, Egg Harbor Twp., NJ

Time:

8:30 am

Cost:

Free

The New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety is presenting a one-day workshop at three locations for potential and current 12-month highway safety grantees using funds from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. There is no charge to attend the workshop.

This workshop will emphasize the requirement from NHTSA that all projects be data-driven, quantified, and measurable by developing proper problem identification, reasonable goals and objectives, methodology, and evaluation plans. The SAGE application process will be reviewed, but note that THIS IS NOT SAGE TRAINING.

To register for any of the above dates, or if you have any questions, please contact:
Ed O'Connor at (609) 376-9708 or Edward.OConnor@njoag.gov



Webinar Series The Connected Fleet Challenge, Webinar #3

Date:

January 09, 2020

Time:

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm EST

Cost:

Free

Participants will learn about the Connected Fleet Challenge, available resources, and understand agency motivations, experiences, and lessons learned regarding the deployment of OBUs and related applications.

Target Audience

State and local transportation agency engineering and technical staff interested in deploying SPaT and connected fleet broadcasts; private contractors and consultants that support state and local transportation agencies; private-sector vendors and manufacturers of connected vehicle equipment related to DSRC, roadside equipment, and signal controllers.

This webinar will present an overview of the Connected Fleet Challenge and available resources, as well as from agencies that have or are currently deploying On-Board Units (OBUs) on fleet vehicles. This will include a discussion of the agency motivations and lessons learned from applications related to the SPaT Challenge and Connected Fleet Challenge.

[Click here to register for this webinar](#)

Transportation Research Board (TRB) Webinar: Turbo-Charged - Turbo Roundabout Advancements

Date: Wednesday, January 29, 2020
Time: 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm MT/2:00 pm to 3:30 pm ET
Cost: \$105

What's the difference between a traditional roundabout and a turbo roundabout? TRB is hosting a webinar to answer this question.

A turbo roundabout has the same operating characteristics as modern roundabouts but utilizes different geometrics to address the conflicts associated with the common crash types in multilane roundabouts. This webinar will discuss international experiences with turbo roundabouts and identify key considerations for U.S. implementation. The content is based on a technical summary by the U.S. Federal Highway Administration.

For more information about this training, click [here](#).

<http://www.trb.org/Calendar/Blurbs/179949.aspx>



Work Zone Safety Awareness Workshop

Date: January 14, 2020
Location: Rutgers CAIT, 100 Brett Road, Piscataway
Times: 8:00 am – 1:00 pm
Cost: \$95.00

The Work Zone Safety Awareness Program is offered to participants who require an overview of working safely in the roadway. As new or veteran employees enter or re-enter the construction and public works profession, they are frequently required to set up short-term work zones or are assigned to long-term projects. There are no allowances for errors when working next to traffic, so it is important for personnel to have a solid understanding of work zone safety compliance with the national MUTCD standards. Also, the roles of workers and enforcement personnel at work sites, differences between NJDOT and local projects, and legal responsibilities in work zones will be addressed during this program.

For more information about this training, click [here](#).

<https://cait.rutgers.edu/event/work-zone-safety-awareness-workshop-2/>

Transportation for America - TransportationCamp DC 2020 Conference

Date: Saturday, January 11, 2020
Location: Washington, DC
Times: 8:30 AM – 5:30 PM EST
Cost: \$50.00

Each year, TransportationCamp DC brings together a sell-out crowd of up to 500 thinkers and doers in the fields of transportation and technology. It's not your traditional conference. In addition to talks and presentations from big names in the field, the heart of TransportationCamp is sessions and activities led by attendees themselves. Held on the Saturday before Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting, it is a high-energy, exciting day of presentations, panels, and networking opportunities - all created and led by the diverse changemakers who attend.

For more information about this conference, click [here](#).

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/transportationcamp-dc-2020-tickets-78627385627>



Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting

Dates: January 12-16, 2020
Location: Washington, DC
Times: 8:30 AM – 5:30 PM EST
Cost: Varies

The Transportation Research Board (TRB) 99th Annual Meeting will be held at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C. The information-packed program is expected to attract more than 13,000 transportation professionals from around the world.

The meeting program will cover all transportation modes, with more than 5,000 presentations in nearly 800 sessions and workshops, addressing topics of interest to policymakers, administrators, practitioners, researchers, and representatives of government, industry, and academic institutions. Several sessions and workshops will focus on the spotlight theme for the 2020 meeting: *A Century of Progress: Foundation for the Future*.

For more information about this conference, click [here](#).

<http://www.trb.org/AnnualMeeting/AnnualMeeting.aspx>



NJDHTS Crash Analysis Tool - Demonstration



Dates: January 22, 2020
February 19, 2020
March 18, 2020
April 22, 2020
May 20, 2020
June 17, 2020
Location: Rutgers CAIT Computer Lab (1st Floor), 100 Brett Road, Piscataway
Times: 8:00 am – 11:00 am
Cost: Free

This is a one day course. NJDHTS has developed a Crash Analysis Tool, which is a powerful analysis tool designed to allow police officers, engineers, planners, designers, and municipal executives to perform analysis, reporting, and crash data review in one streamlined, easy to use platform. The tool allows the merging of multiple data sets, including crash data, roadway data, and various safety layers for a seamless experience, referencing data from various sources and using it to make data-driven decisions regarding roadway safety. The tool includes the ability to identify crash patterns quickly, drill down within the data and analyze segments at varying levels

They are offering training demonstrations that provide an overview of the Crash Analysis Tool and how to use it. The training is three hours and will provide for a brief demonstration of the tool, as well as one-on-one assistance to create and save queries for future use.

To register or for questions, contact:

Joseph Weiss, Transportation Safety Analyst at (609) 445-2893 or email joseph.weiss@njoag.gov



Traffic Incident Management Training for Emergency Responders

Date: February 6, 2020
May 5, 2020
Location: Rutgers CAIT, 100 Brett Road, Piscataway
Times: 8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Cost: Free

The training covers topics including TIM guidelines, fundamentals, and terminology; notifications and scene size up; scene safety and risk management; traffic management; special circumstances; clearance; and termination.

This course is open to all traffic-incident first responders, including personnel in law enforcement, firefighting, emergency medical services (EMS), public safety, public works, towing and recovery, and hazardous materials (HAZMAT).

[Click here to register for the February class](#)

[Click here to register for the May class](#)



Webinar - Officer Use of Force Statements: Considerations to Support Investigative Priorities

Date: Tuesday, February 18, 2020
Time: 1:00 PM
Cost: Free

Most use of force incidents prompts a department investigation that usually includes taking the officer's statement of the incident. This process can seem straightforward, but there is much to be considered before taking the statement.

A statement is intended to allow the officer to tell their story—to create a clear picture of what was important to them at that moment. Yet often, investigators ask questions that can lead to unnecessary information or even contradictions in the officer's statement. Before sitting down with an officer, investigators must understand what information is important to obtain from the officer to advance the investigation.

Join Lexipol in this webinar to learn how departments can improve the process of taking officer statements following the use of force incidents, leading to more accurate accounts that provide clarity for the incident investigation.

You'll learn:

- Factors to consider when determining whether to take a statement from the involved officer
- Why there may be inconsistencies in an officer's account when compared with video evidence or witness statements
- The importance of crafting interview questions that will advance the investigation

[Click here to register for this webinar](#)



Budgeting for the Elected Official: Everything you Need to Know to Create, Balance, and Approve Your Municipalities' Budget

Date: February 22, 2020
Location: The Conference Center at Mercer, 1200 Old Trenton Rd., West Windsor
Times: 8:30 am – 2:00 pm
Cost: Member Rate \$ 75.00, Non Member Rate \$100.00

NJ State League of Municipalities seminar. Creating and approving a feasible budget is one of the most important tasks of an Elected Official. It is also one of the most complex and time-consuming tasks. To aid in this endeavor, the League has created a special half-day program geared towards Elected Officials to help them in understanding the Municipal Budgeting Process. The day will be broken into four parts that include:

- Budget Law Overview
- What is Budgeting
- Why is it Important
- History of State Aid, and
- Planning for the Future.

This program is a requirement of the Local Government Leadership Program.

[Click here for more details and to register for the February 22 Budgeting Program](#)



NJ MVC - Current Trends in Document Fraud

Date: March 2, 2020
Location: Middlesex County Fire Academy, 1000 Fire Academy Dr., Sayreville, NJ
Times: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Cost: Free

With emerging technology, it has become increasingly difficult to identify fraudulent documents.

This course is intended for all law enforcement officers, Patrol and Investigation, to help enhance their skills to be able to recognize and identify fraudulent identity-related documents issued by and relied upon by the Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC), along with the aspects that motivate fraudsters.

Topics will include:

- Tools available to identify counterfeit documents
- Newest trends in counterfeiting of driver's licenses
- "On-line" fake document manufacturers
- Identification of fraudulent documents, to include:
 - Driver licenses
 - Green cards,
 - Passports
 - Birth certificates
 - Social security cards
- Counterfeit and genuine NJ MVC
 - Inspection stickers
 - Temporary registrations
 - Certificates of title.
- Facial recognition technology used by MVC

The class includes a presentation about the New Jersey Regional Operations Intelligence Center's (ROIC) Facial Recognition Initiative. Which is a state of the art investigative tool which utilizes the Photo Imaging Mugshot System maintained in the New York/New Jersey HIDTA Program. Also, the New Jersey State Police will present an overview the ROIC's resources, capabilities, mission, initiatives, and purpose.

To register contact Investigator Mark Cushing at 609-633-9493 or mark.cushing@mvc.nj.gov

A flyer for this course can be found in the appendix of this newsletter.



Practical Traffic Engineering for Police Officers

Dates: April 9, 16, 23, 30, May 7, & 14, 2020
Time: 9:30am-1:30pm
Location: Rutgers Lifelong Learning Center, New Brunswick
Cost: \$809

The class runs for six Thursdays in April and May. Students must be pre-registered before attending the course, and there are no walk-in registrations allowed. There are no lunch breaks during classes.

Students will receive a workbook/manual specifically designed for this 25-hour interactive course, along with a USB drive containing additional materials. This course provides instruction and resources in the following areas: the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD); NJDOT Regulations; statutory requirements; speed limits; traffic control devices; traffic surveys; site plan reviews; traffic management and calming; major event traffic management planning; and preconstruction meetings. Lessons for this course focus on how traffic officers manage their responsibilities, employing one of the three E's of traffic safety. Students will understand how to utilize the MUTCD efficiently; perform traffic surveys for traffic control devices; the effective use of signage and roadway markings; the placement of adult school crossing guards; enhance bicycle safety; establish speed limits; delineate roadway parameters; compose traffic ordinances and resolutions; traffic crash reduction; and develop written and verbal presentations for government officials and planning boards.

This course is approved for the New Jersey Traffic Safety Specialist (TSS) Certification Program.

[Click here to download a course flyer and registration form](#)



Work Zone Safety Awareness for Local Police

Dates: April 9, 2020
Location: AAA Mid-Atlantic, 700 Horizon Dr., Hamilton (Mercer County)
Times: 8:00 am – 1:00 pm
Cost: Free

This course, similar to our Work Zone Safety Awareness Program, is specifically being offered to current New Jersey law enforcement officers who require an overview of working safely in the roadway. This course Does Not replace the Police Work Zone Safety Train the Trainer Course. As new or veteran law enforcement officers are frequently required to assist with short-term work zones or are assigned to long-term projects. There are no allowances for errors when working next to traffic, so it is important for personnel to have a solid understanding of work zone safety compliance with the national MUTCD standards. Also, the roles of workers and enforcement personnel at work sites, differences between NJDOT and local projects, and legal responsibilities in work zones will be addressed during this program.

This course is open to LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL ONLY.

[Click here to register for this class](#)



NJDHTS - Police Work Zone Safety Train-The-Trainer



Dates: April 14 to April 17, 2020
Location: Passaic County Police Academy, 214 Oldham Rd, Wayne
Times: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
Cost: Free

This four-day program is designed for experienced police personnel who seek to become trainers in work zone traffic control.

This course is developed around typical long-term and short-term road work activities that occur on any state roadway, from two-lanes to interstates. The training covers the standards of work zone protection as specified in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

This course is open to LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL ONLY.

The class schedule is as follows:

- Day 1:** The MUTCD (Part VI)
- Day 2:** New Jersey vs the MUTCD
- Day 3:** NJDOT/Local Law Enforcement
- Day 4:** Legal/NJSP/OSHA

[Click here to register](#)



Work Zone Safety Awareness for Local Police

Dates: April 9, 2020
Location: Rutgers CAIT, 100 Brett Road, Piscataway
Times: 8:00 am – 1:00 pm
Cost: Free

This course, similar to our Work Zone Safety Awareness Program, is specifically being offered to current New Jersey law enforcement officers who require an overview of working safely in the roadway. This course Does Not replace the Police Work Zone Safety Train the Trainer Course. As new or veteran law enforcement officers are frequently required to assist with short-term work zones or are assigned to long-term projects. There are no allowances for errors when working next to traffic, so it is important for personnel to have a solid understanding of work zone safety compliance with the national MUTCD standards. Also, the roles of workers and enforcement personnel at work sites, differences between NJDOT and local projects, and legal responsibilities in work zones will be addressed during this program.

This course is open to LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL ONLY.

[Click here to register for this course](#)



NJDHTS - Police Work Zone Safety Train-The-Trainer



Dates: June 23 to 26, 2020
Location: Middlesex County Fire Academy, 101 Fire Academy Dr., Sayerville
Times: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
Cost: Free

This four-day program is designed for experienced police personnel who seek to become trainers in work zone traffic control.

This course is developed around typical long-term and short-term road work activities that occur on any state roadway, from two-lanes to interstates. The training covers the standards of work zone protection as specified in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

This course is open to LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL ONLY.

The class schedule is as follows:

- Day 1:** The MUTCD (Part VI)
- Day 2:** New Jersey vs the MUTCD
- Day 3:** NJDOT/Local Law Enforcement
- Day 4:** Legal/NJSP/OSHA

[Click here to register for this class](#)

Quote of the month

There's a lot of good police officers. There are thousands of perfect traffic stops. Lot of good men. Lot of good women. But those don't get the stories.

Dabo Swinney

William Christopher "Dabo" Swinney is the Head Football Coach at Clemson University.

Don't forget to visit the association's website regularly, www.njptoa.com; the site is updated regularly. It is also the place to go for resources and updates about the association. If you have anything for the website, please contact one of the officers.

Remember the five tenets of Below 100

*Wear your seat belt
Watch your speed
Wear your vest
WIN: What's Important Now
Complacency kills*



&

*When in traffic
Wear your high visibility safety vest !!
Stay Safe Out There*

*Happy New Year
2020*

**Next meeting is January 8th
at AAA in Hamilton starting at 10:00 AM**

Newsletter Information

If any member would like to submit an article, information about events and training, or anything you want to spread the word about dealing with traffic safety, please email it to Rich Maxwell at rmax@att.net.

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Appendix





CURRENT TRENDS IN DOCUMENT FRAUD

Date: March 2, 2020

Time: 9:00 – 4:00

**Location: Middlesex County Fire Academy,
1000 Fire Academy Dr., Sayreville, NJ**

**RSVP : Mark Cushing 609-633-9493 or
mark.cushing@mvc.nj.gov**

This course will assist law enforcement (Patrol Officers as well as Detectives) with training that will enhance their ability to recognize and identify the universe of identity-related documents issued by and relied upon by the MVC and the factors that motivate fraudsters. With emerging technology, it has become increasingly difficult to identify fraudulent documents. Students will learn what tools are available to assist them in identifying counterfeit documents by providing “hands on” training and experience in the recognition of fraud as it pertains to documents such as: driver licenses, green cards, passports, birth certificates and social security cards. Participants will learn the newest trends in counterfeiting of driver licenses by “on-line” manufacturers, which has become increasingly common due to the ease in obtaining access to technologies. This course will also review counterfeit as well as genuine NJ inspection stickers, temporary registrations and certificate of title. This training course is free of charge.

In addition, this class will review facial recognition technology as it is used by the Motor Vehicle Commission on all images captured as well as the process that is used with the submission of a photo for a “manual upload”. This course will inform students of a cutting edge investigative tool available at the New Jersey Regional Operations Intelligence Center (ROIC). Known as the “Facial Recognition Initiative”, this technology utilizes the Photo Imaging Mugshot System maintained in the New York/New Jersey “HIDTA” Program. Lastly, New Jersey State Police will give a presentation on the general awareness of the NJ ROIC’s resources, capabilities, mission, initiatives and purpose.

Division of Criminal Justice Academy

2020 Course Registration

Fax ALL **DCJ** registration forms to:

FAX: (732) 974-7551

To assist in planning course enrollment and providing confirmation of enrollment, registrations should be submitted at least 30 days prior to course start date. **Confirmation of your enrollment will be EMAILED to you; it is your responsibility to make sure you have provided an accurate email address.**

Please check course prerequisites and fees prior to submitting registrations.

GENERAL REGISTRATION FORM

EXCEPTION: FIREARMS courses will begin at 0800.

For tuition courses, please submit an agency check or completed payment voucher **after** you have received your confirmation letter. All course tuition payments should be mailed to the DCJ office in Trenton ATTENTION: LISA STELLWAG! **DO NOT SEND REGISTRATIONS TO LISA STELLWAG**

COURSE: RADAR Instructor Refresher

Date(s):

APPLICANT INFORMATION <i>(The information you provide will be used to create your certificate, so please make sure the information is correct and type or print legibly using black ink)</i>			
LAST NAME	FIRST	ADDRESS	PREFERRED E-Mail
TITLE/RANK	SOCIAL SECURITY NO. (Required)	COUNTY (Required)	AGENCY ORI NUMBER
EMPLOYING AGENCY	HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER		
AGENCY MAILING ADDRESS	AGENCY TELEPHONE NO. (Direct Number or Extension)		
CITY/STATE/ZIP (zip code is required)	AGENCY FAX NO.		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT	DATE
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT'S SUPERVISOR (Required)	TELEPHONE
NAME AND TITLE OF SUPERVISOR (Please type or print legibly) (Required)	DATE