



Colonel Mark F. Delaney  
Superintendent

The Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
Department of State  
Police  
Office of Media  
Relations

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

May 7, 2009

**CONTACT:**

State Police Office of Media Relations  
Daytime: (508) 820-2623  
Nights & Weekends: (508) 820-2121

**State Police Truck Team Recognized Nationally**

On April 8, the State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Section received three awards and an honorable mention at the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's 2009 Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program Leadership Awards Ceremony in Louisville, Kentucky. Lt. Colonel Robert G. Smith, Commander of the Massachusetts State Police Division of Field Services, accepted the awards. State Police shared one of the awards with the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities.

On April 30, at the Department of Public Utilities in Boston, Mr. Richard Bates, Division Administrator for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation presented the two FMCSA Leadership Awards to the State Police CVES and an Overall State Safety Program Performance Award to the State Police CVES and the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities. "Once again the Massachusetts State Police has distinguished itself as a leader in commercial vehicle safety," Mr. Bates said. Lieutenant Colonel Smith commended the members of the CVES for their hard work and stated, "The efforts of this team are obvious. In 2008 you inspected 18,173 commercial vehicles and stopped 9,717 commercial motor vehicles for traffic violations. Your hard work and the actions of your team are responsible for saving lives and protecting property of Massachusetts Citizens."

The first award is for achieving the Lowest Large Truck and Bus Fatality Rate for a medium-sized state during the years 2005 through 2007. The second is for Traffic Enforcement Effort in a medium sized state, given to the agency exhibiting the highest concentration of commercial vehicle traffic enforcement in fiscal year 2008 relative to enforcement and roadside inspection nationwide.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities joined the State Police in receiving the Overall State Safety Program Performance Award. This award is presented to the state that scores highest on eight individual performance measures in the areas of data quality, traffic enforcement effort, lowest commercial vehicle fatality rate and state conducted compliance reviews during the fiscal and calendar years evaluated for a medium-sized state. Massachusetts has the lowest commercial vehicle fatality rate at .05 lives lost per 100 million miles traveled. "On behalf of the DPU Transportation Oversight Division, I am pleased to accept this Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Leadership Award in recognition of the DPU's outstanding motor coach safety program," DPU Chairman Paul Hibbard said. "The men and women charged with implementing

this program do an excellent job ensuring that motor coach transportation in the Commonwealth is both safe and efficient. Our staff regulates more than 300 motor bus companies that transport thousands of passengers safely each day. We have been able to conduct more than 2,500 bus inspections and 100 new-entrant safety audits each year in support of the DPU's highest priority mission: public safety.”

Honorable Mention was given for large truck and bus fatality improvement from calendar years 2002-2004 to 2005-2007. The State Police CVES has engaged in an aggressive effort to reduce commercial motor vehicle involved crashes by employing high visibility enforcement in high crash corridors. Through these efforts and those of other State Police agencies throughout the country, the nationwide large truck and bus crash rate is at its lowest since records were first compiled in 1974.

-30-



Brian Christie Director DPU, Lt Col Smith, Richard Bates, Paul Hibbard Chairman DPU, Lt Scott Szala CVES

Excellence In Service Through Quality Policing

[www.mass.gov/msp](http://www.mass.gov/msp)