



# Highway Safety Division HSD Connector

Volume 1

February 2012

## Inside this issue:

HSD Trainings	2
MLEC	2
Grant Programs	3
News from the field...	4
Bidder's Conference Boston	4
CPS Grant	5
CPS Trainings	5
CPS Resources	5
Flex-Safe Barricades	6
Dance. Don't Chance.	6

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
 Governor Deval Patrick Lt. Governor Tim Murray  
 EOPSS Secretary Mary Elizabeth Heffernan

## HSD Director Sheila Burgess

Welcome! On behalf of everyone at the Highway Safety Division of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS/HSD) I would like to wish you all a happy and safe New Year.



EOPSS/HSD recognizes that traffic crashes are preventable and that Massachusetts is committed to continuously reducing the number of fatalities, injuries and economic losses resulting from these crashes.

I look forward to working with EOPSS/HSD staff and the many others involved in highway safety to improve upon our accomplishments in the coming year. We hope you find this newsletter useful and as always, we welcome your feedback.

Sheila Burgess, Director of Highway Safety Division

## Workzone Safety/Drive Sober Event

Officials from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS), MassDOT, Massachusetts State Police, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) held a press conference in December to announce traffic enforcement results from the work zone speed enforcement campaign. This initiative, funded by EOPSS and MassDOT using Federal grants from NHTSA and FHWA, is in direct response to a spate of crashes at work sites. Since 2009, in Massachusetts, there have been approximately 2,200 crashes at work sites. 2010 statistics show a Massachusetts State Trooper had been involved in a crash at a work site roughly once every two weeks. Since the beginning of the initiative in November 2011, State Police have issued approximately 3,000 citations.



Sheila Burgess, Director of HSD at the Workzone Safety/Drive Sober Press Event in December 2011.

Additionally, the press conference underscored the dangers and consequences of drunk driving and the state's "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" mobilization. The statewide effort, funded by EOPSS using a federal highway safety grant, provided funds for thousands of additional hours of traffic patrols and a public awareness campaign that ran from December 16, 2011 through January 2, 2012.



# Training Opportunities



## **MPTC Specialized Training**

EOPSS/HSD has partnered with the Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC) to offer no-cost, specialized training courses for municipal police officers across the state through a federal grant award for the following six program areas: Impaired Driving; Drug Evaluation and Classification/Drug Impairment Training for Educational Professionals; Child Passenger Safety; Traffic Occupant Protection Strategies; Massachusetts Traffic Records Analysis Center/Data-Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety; and Fair and Impartial Policing. Additional trainings will also be offered in Work Zone Safety, Speed Measurement, Crash Reconstruction and Motorcycle Safety. Those interested in attending courses are encouraged to check the MPTC Website at [www.mass.gov/mptc](http://www.mass.gov/mptc) under the 'Training & Academies' link and then selecting the 'Highway Safety Division Sponsored Programs' link.

## **Data Reporting from Police Crash Reports**

EOPSS/HSD and MassDOT have conducted regional meetings with municipal police departments to discuss how our agencies use data from police crash reports and why this data is crucial to our work. These meetings give departments an opportunity to ask questions and explain some of the difficulties they may have with reporting. To date, approximately 60 departments have attended these meetings. Some departments reported submitting crash reports to the Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV), but there was no record of them. As a result, each month EOPSS/HSD emails a spreadsheet to each department detailing the number of crash reports received by the RMV. This includes both paper and electronically submitted crash reports. For more information about this initiative, please contact Barbara Rizzuti at [Barbara.Rizzuti@state.ma.us](mailto:Barbara.Rizzuti@state.ma.us).

Win prizes  
for your  
department  
by taking  
part in  
MLEC!

## Massachusetts Law Enforcement Challenge (MLEC)

EOPSS/HSD is pleased to announce the 8th annual Massachusetts Law Enforcement Challenge (MLEC), modeled after the National Challenge sponsored by the International Association of Chiefs of Police. MLEC is a friendly competition between law enforcement agencies where traffic safety efforts during the previous calendar year are recognized and rewarded at an annual awards ceremony.

To date, EOPSS/HSD has hosted two MLEC workshops for 16 police departments across the Commonwealth. The workshops provide an opportunity for past applicants to improve upon the quality of their submission and for new departments to take some of the mystery out of the application process.

As part of the MLEC Awards Ceremony, EOPSS/HSD is pleased to offer traffic-safety related equipment donated by VIP Sponsors to all participating departments. Vendor logos are included in the event program and are provided access to the event. Any company interested in becoming a sponsor or learning more about MLEC is encouraged to contact Caroline Hymoff, Senior Program Manager, via email at [Caroline.Hymoff@state.ma.us](mailto:Caroline.Hymoff@state.ma.us) or by phone at 617.725.3334. Our VIP Sponsors donated nearly \$30,000 in prizes to last year's winners representing twenty police departments across the state.

The 2012 application is available on the EOPSS/HSD website at [www.mass.gov/highwaysafety](http://www.mass.gov/highwaysafety). The due date for this year's application, based upon calendar year 2011 data, is **Thursday, April 12, 2012**.



# Grant Programs

## 2012 Underage Drinking Grant Programs

EOPSS/HSD will award federal funds for two grant programs to combat underage drinking in late February and early March. Approximately \$200,000 in funds will be awarded to municipalities as part of the 2012 Underage Alcohol Enforcement Grant. Activities supported under this program include party patrols, surveillance patrols, shoulder taps, Cops in Shops, and Compliance Checks. We anticipate funding 30 communities.

The District Attorneys Underage Drinking Prevention Conferences application for grant funds has been released. Awardees will host a one-day conference that brings together a variety of stakeholders in youths' lives such as parents, coaches, and law enforcement to prevent underage drinking. Conferences will include a variety of workshops and presentations that incorporate some or all of the following topics:

- The link between alcohol use and highway safety and other safety issues
- Enforcement issues such as social host enforcement and underage drinking laws
- School or other organizational policies
- Responsible decisions regarding alcohol use

Although much progress has been made in the last two decades, alcohol-related crashes are all too common among young people. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), in 2009, nationwide, 33% of 15- to 20-year-olds who were killed in crashes had a blood alcohol content of .01 or higher. Compounding the problem, drivers are also less likely to use restraints when they have been drinking. In 2009, 60% of the young drivers of passenger vehicles involved in fatal crashes who had been drinking were unrestrained. Of the young drivers who had been drinking and were killed in crashes, 70% were unrestrained.

## 2012 Traffic Enforcement Grant Program Update

Over 90 municipal police departments participated in the first high-visibility traffic enforcement mobilization which ran from December 2011 to early January 2012. The *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* mobilization mirrored the national enforcement campaign for the holiday season. This concerted effort reminded motorists that if they make the decision to drink and drive, they risk arrest.

This economic climate has seen decreased funding at federal and state levels and EOPSS/HSD found a way to use funds in the most effective manner. Over the last few years, EOPSS/HSD has been implementing a data-driven approach to the development and evaluation of our federally-funded grant programs. Thus, it was determined that local police departments' eligibility for this year's grant program would be based on past performance (three documented stops per hour), numbers of injury crashes, and crime data. As a result, 179 departments were deemed eligible for funding for this grant opportunity.

The Traffic Enforcement Grant Program is a rolling enrollment and there is no deadline. All grant application documents, including the list of eligible departments, will remain posted on our website, [www.mass.gov/highwaysafety](http://www.mass.gov/highwaysafety) under the "FFY 2012 Traffic Enforcement Grant Program" link through July 2012. We strongly encourage eligible departments that have not yet applied to participate in this worthwhile program.

If you have any questions about the Traffic Enforcement Grant Program or wish to apply, please contact Grant Manager Deb Firlit at [Deborah.Firlit@state.ma.us](mailto:Deborah.Firlit@state.ma.us).



Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey; Professor Michael Siegel, M.D., M.P.H., of Boston University School of Public Health; Secretary Mary Beth Heffernan from EOPSS; and The Honorable Paul C. Dawley, Regional Administrative Justice for the Administrative Office of the Trial Court at a 2011 District Attorney's Underage Drinking Prevention Conference.



## News from the Field...

### Little Fingers, Big Trouble: Yale Study Sheds Light on Child Self-Unbuckling

A study by the Yale School of Medicine researchers reveals that many children unbuckle while the vehicle is in motion, putting them at a 3.5-fold increased risk for serious injuries. Read more: <http://news.yale.edu/2011/05/01/little-fingers-big-trouble-yale-study-sheds-light-child-self-unbuckling>

### New Guide for Parents and Guardians of Teen Drivers Available at RMV Branches

MassDOT Secretary and CEO Richard A. Davey and RMV Registrar Rachel Kaprielian have announced the availability of a new guide to optimize the 40-hours of supervised driving teens are required to complete under parental supervision prior to receiving their license. Read more: <http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/rmv/main/tabid/1078/ctl/detail/mid/1286/itemid/148/New-Guide-for-Parents-and-Guardians-of-Teen-Drivers-Distributed-at-RMV-Branches.aspx>

### RMV Announces Upcoming Medical Certification Requirements for Commercial Drivers

RMV Registrar Rachel Kaprielian announced a new federal regulation that requires action by all 180,000 licensed commercial drivers, commercial permit holders, and new commercial applicants in Massachusetts beginning this spring. Read more: <http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/rmv/main/tabid/1078/ctl/detail/mid/1286/itemid/153/RMV-Announces-Upcoming-Medical-Certification-Requirements-for-Commercial-Drivers.aspx>

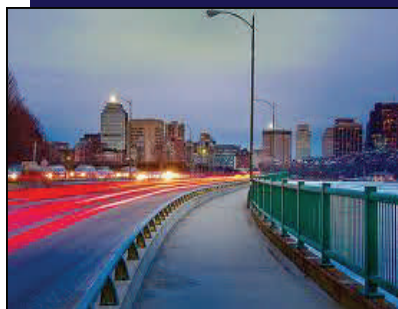
### International Association of Chiefs of Police Traffic Digest

With information on speed enforcement, Law Enforcement Challenge and Efforts to Curb Impaired Driving. Click this link for more information: <http://www.theiacp.org/Portals/0/pdfs/DispatchFeb2012.pdf>



## Bidder's Conference Hosted in Boston

In December, EOPSS/HSD hosted a Bidder's Conference in Boston attended by 40 people to learn about upcoming grant opportunities during FFY 2012. Staff presented an overview of four program areas – Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety, Child Passenger Safety, Traffic Enforcement, and Underage Alcohol Enforcement – noted key deadlines, common challenges and also provided tips on how to write a successful grant proposal. The Bidder's Conference also provided an opportunity for law enforcement personnel to learn about the annual Safety Belt Survey; the value of working with local media outlets; upcoming trainings; the Massachusetts Traffic Records Analysis Center (MassTRAC); and the direction of HSD's future programming, including a renewed focus on data analysis and evaluation.





# Child Passenger Safety (CPS)

## Grant Program

### 2012 CPS Equipment Grant Application Released

EOPSS/HSD which announced the availability of \$80,000 in funding for the 2012 CPS Equipment Grant Program, provides funding to selected applicants to purchase Federally-approved car seats for distribution to needy citizens in their respective communities. The grant program is open to all Massachusetts municipalities, non-profit hospitals, and non-profits with a public purpose.

Expected award amounts will range from \$1,500 to \$2,000 and awards will be announced in March. To find out more about this exciting grant program, go to: <http://www.mass.gov/highwaysafety> and select "FFY 2012 CPS Equipment Grant Program."



## Training Opportunities



EOPSS/HSD is pleased to offer no-cost training opportunities for CPS technicians looking to become certified or recertify their credentials. Certification classes are 40 hours in length and are available across the state. Classes will be announced and locations selected based upon demand. Those interested in attending courses are encouraged to contact Don Dupray, Statewide CPS Coordinator, via email at: [triadtraffic@verizon.net](mailto:triadtraffic@verizon.net).

**SAVE THE DATE:** Mark your calendars for the Annual CPS Conference being held on Wednesday, September 19, 2012.

## Resources Available to You

EOPSS/HSD is pleased to offer all currently certified technicians and instructors a free CD for use by English-speaking technicians to facilitate improved communication with Spanish-speaking families. The CD was produced by the Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office last year and was made available to EOPSS/HSD for reproduction. Those interested in obtaining a CD are encouraged to contact Don Dupray, Statewide CPS Coordinator, via email at [triadtraffic@verizon.net](mailto:triadtraffic@verizon.net).

Call the Commonwealth's CPS Hotline with your questions: 877-392-5956.  
For general information, visit <http://www.safekids.org/>

## ***Dance. Don't Chance.*** **Prom/Graduation Safe Driving Campaign and Video Contest**

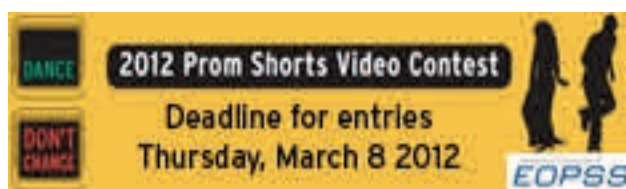
EOPSS/HSD is working with corporate partners such as JAM'N 94.5, Kiss 108FM, Boston Limo, In Control Crash Prevention Training, AAA of Southern New England, Vitamin Water, and Dellaria Salons to make this prom/graduation season safer for teenagers on Massachusetts roads.

The *Dance. Don't Chance.* safe driving video contest calls on students to write and produce a 60-second video to promote safe, drug and alcohol free driving during the prom and graduation season, and year round.

All videos will be available to view on YouTube and the top peer-rated videos from each school will be judged by JAM'N 94.5 and KISS 108 radio personalities and two winners will be publicly announced later this spring. The schools with the winning videos will receive prizes from our sponsors to benefit their prom. **The deadline to submit entries is March 8, 2012.**

Get your community schools involved and make this the best and safest prom and graduation season ever.

More contest information is available at [www.mass.gov/safety/promshorts](http://www.mass.gov/safety/promshorts).



### **Product Update:**

#### **Flex-Safe Barricades**

**Attention:** MassDOT reports that a product made by Flex-Safe Barricades is not MUTCD compliant and should not be used on Mass. roadways. Any questions may be referred to Thomas Broderick, Acting Chief Engineer, MassDOT at : [Thomas.f.broderick@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:Thomas.f.broderick@dot.state.ma.us).



**This Flex Safe Barricade above is not MUTCD compliant, and cannot be used on Mass. roadways.**

### **EOPSS/HSD Mission Statement**

The mission of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's Highway Safety Division is to facilitate the development and implementation of policies, programs, and partnerships to help reduce fatalities, injuries, and economic losses from motor vehicle crashes on Massachusetts roadways.

#### **Contact us at:**

Office of Grants and Research  
 Highway Safety Division  
 10 Park Plaza, Suite 3720  
 Boston, MA 02116  
 Phone: 617-725-3301  
 Fax: 617-725-0260  
[www.mass.gov/highwaysafety](http://www.mass.gov/highwaysafety)

For newsletter questions or possible news submissions please contact Emma Morrison at [Emma.Morrison@state.ma.us](mailto:Emma.Morrison@state.ma.us)