

## *Colorado Crash Report Form DR 3447 Update*

*March 2017*

### **Things to Know**

In 2013, Colorado adopted the vision of Toward Zero Deaths. This visionary goal is to reduce the fatal crash numbers to zero, so that a fatal crash in Colorado becomes the exception rather than the norm. The Strategic Highway Safety Plan identified the need to update Colorado's crash form, the DR2447, to improve crash data in order to pursue the Zero Deaths goal.

The DR 2447 has been Colorado's crash reporting form since 2006. Over the past decade there have been many changes: marijuana has been legalized, vehicle technology has changed, distracted driving has increased, smart phones have been widely adopted, the economy is stronger, gas prices are low, Colorado's population is exploding, and vehicle miles traveled are increasing. It is critical to update the crash form and adapt to the changing driving environment to improve data collection and analysis.

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), Colorado Department of Revenue (CDOR), Colorado State Patrol, local law enforcement, and other members of the Statewide Traffic Records Advisory Committee (STRAC) created a committee to update the crash form. Members of the STRAC, law enforcement, public works, and other crash data users have met over the past year to identify necessary changes to the form. The new form will improve Colorado's data driven decision making with better initial data collection by officers in the field.

### **All Traffic Records Stakeholders**

- The new crash form, DR 3447, will improve data quality of Colorado's crash reports by incorporating some of the newest standards in the Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria Guidelines (MMUCC) being released in 2017.
- The revised crash form will expand the ability to analyze data and improve the development of engineering and behavioral countermeasures to combat the recent rise in motor vehicle fatalities. Some elements planned to be added to the DR 3447 are:
  - Improved data collection for non-motorists (bicyclists and pedestrians) involved in crashes
  - Distracted driving data
  - Drugged and impaired driving i.e. marijuana



- Autonomous vehicle information
- Secondary crashes
- Improved collection of existing data elements, such as weather
- The Colorado Department of Revenues DRIVES project is upgrading the driver, vehicle, and crash records system. CDOR will determine the requirements for adopting the new form into DRIVES and establish a schedule for deployment of the new crash form.
- The contents of the DR 3447 have been established and a data model is available on the [STRAC website](#) for review. A committee of law enforcement officers from across the state are currently working on the following:
  - Developing the new crash form layout for the DR 3447
  - Updating the investigating officer's manual
- CDOR and CDOT are working on their plans to update their databases. Some changes, mostly improvements in the data, will affect some of the data that is tracked over time. For example, more robust collection of drugged impaired driving data collected on the DR 3447 may indicate an increase in drug impaired driving when looking at historical trends.
- The DR 3447 may be deployed as soon as January 2018. The time to start preparing is now.
- Safety analysts should prepare for updating analysis tools, standard reports, etc. to work with the new data format, and to take advantage of the expanded data elements that will be available.

### **Law Enforcement**

- The investigating officer's manual will be updated prior to deployment in order to reflect changes made on the crash form.
- In order to be prepared for the new DR 3447 crash report, agencies should consider the following:
  - Update training / operations materials to reflect the new form.
  - For agencies collecting crash report data electronically, systems may require upgrades or modifications (RMS and/or Crash Reporting module). Agencies need to determine if maintenance contracts cover the integration and submittal of the DR 3447 to CDOR.



- Agencies submitting paper reports will need to transition to using the DR 3447 paper form for submittals to DOR. Make plans to procure the paper version of the DR 3447 when they become available.
- CDOR will accept both the DR 2447 and DR 3447 for a period of time to assist with the transition. A deadline for when the DR 2447 will no longer be accepted has not been established, however, please make plans to transition to using the DR 3447 form as soon as possible.

### **Funding**

- Agencies looking to capitalize on the new form and database systems may be eligible for funding to assist with projects that improve crash data for the state. STRAC funding is available to assist agencies with projects such as acquiring or implementing e-crash or e-citation, electronic submittals of these records to the state, and other similar projects.
- More information is available at: <https://www.codot.gov/about/committees/strac>

### **How to Stay Up-to-date**

- The State Traffic Records Advisory Committee (STRAC) is in charge of the DR 3447 crash form update. You may contact STRAC via email, [dot\\_hq\\_strac@state.co.us](mailto:dot_hq_strac@state.co.us), at CDOT for more information.
- You can learn of future developments and find up-to-date information on the crash form update process, the current schedule, and project updates at the STRAC website: <https://www.codot.gov/about/committees/strac>

