

# Interagency Task Force on Drunk Driving

---

## Task Force Meeting Minutes July 16, 2010

### Introductions

Chief Wolfinbarger (Chair) called the meeting to order, ensured that there was a quorum, and welcomed everyone to the Colorado State Patrol Academy. The Chief also issued an invitation to have a future meeting during the academy's SFST drinking lab so that the task force could observe the training.

Attendees introduced themselves. No legislators were present, and there were no public comments.

Attendees:

- Jim Wolfinbarger
- Raymond Fisher
- Jill Hart
- Heather Coogan
- Stephen Hooper
- Sharon Liu
- Emily Tompkins
- Donnie Patch
- Ellen Anderson
- David Timken
- Paul Hofmann
- Tom Quinn
- Kris Johnson
- Chris Halsor
- Glenn Davis
- Tara Forst
- Robin Smart
- Jennifer Gray

A brief discussion was held about current training courses related to the DUI problem. The group heard about a comprehensive DUI course, the DRE program, ARIDE trainings, a problem with returning soldiers self-medicating, and the issues being caused by medical marijuana. Chief Coogan is working with a group re-evaluating POST training, and there may now be hours available within the training to help with these other issues.

Jennifer Gray asked what drivers can do to watch for drugged drivers, and Glenn Davis gave a brief explanation of signs of impaired driving (erratic speeds, weaving a pattern, etc.) which apply to alcohol and drugs.

### Discussion of the Draft Strategic Plan

The latest draft of the plan, with tasks added, was sent out to all members prior to the meeting.

Discussion began with general comments about the plan draft.

Chief Wolfinbarger stated that he believes that this latest format represents a truly collaborative effort and a vast improvement over previous drafts.

Steve Hooper provided language related to increased interlock use which will be incorporated into the document.

Tom Quinn pointed out that the plan refers to a cost/benefit analysis that could be prohibitively expensive. Concerns were also expressed regarding the strategies listed and whether they should be specific to objectives and /or if they should be developed after the objectives and tasks are specified.

# Interagency Task Force on Drunk Driving

---

Christine Flavia sent word through Sharon Liu that she would like to see the inclusion of increased education and treatment to address underage drinking.

Robin Smart emphasized that this plan reflects goals, objectives and measures that relate to the task force rather than the member organizations. She also reiterated that this will be a dynamic document.

Ray Fisher reminded the group of the additional work plan items which have been placed on a list for future inclusion. These items will be prioritized and moved onto the workplan when others have been completed.

Discussion continued around performance measures and outcome measures. Overall performance measures will be incorporated into the CSP SharePoint website.

## **Review of Introductory Sections:**

Who we are: Change Mothers Against Drunk “Drivers” to “Driving”

Why we exist: Information will be provided where “XXXs” are in the plan. Comments were made that this section is an important part to show the huge impact of lost lives and the cost to Colorado caused by impaired driving.

## **Review of Goals:**

The group decided to focus on approval of the goals and formation of working groups to work on objectives, measures, tasks, and strategies related to those goals. Volunteers are listed for working groups, but others are welcome to join. **Each working group should meet, develop the information and disseminate it to the group via email before the August 20<sup>th</sup> ITFDD meeting.**

Jill Hart explained that the plan includes four main goals which can be categorized as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prevention
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mitigation of Effects
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Treatment
- 4<sup>th</sup> Overall Effectiveness of ITFDD

Review of Goals:

- Goal: *Support the enhancement of government services, education, and intervention to prevent drunk and impaired driving.*

The decision was made to remove the word “government” from the goal.

**Working Group** = Kris Johnson, Sharon Liu, Steve Hooper, Emily Tompkins, and invite Bill Young or Gene Giron

# Interagency Task Force on Drunk Driving

---

- Goal: *Serve as a catalyst for a measureable positive impact on incidents of drunk and impaired driving.*

**Working Group** = Glenn Davis, Paul Wood or Donnie Patch, David Timken, Jennifer Gray

- Goal: *Support efforts to reduce recidivism rates for drivers convicted of impaired driving.*

**Working Group** = Tom Quinn, David Timken, Jennifer Gray, Christine Flavia, Steve Wren, Heather Coogan, Abe Hutt

- Goal: *Ensure the long-term effectiveness of the task force in addressing drunk and impaired driving in Colorado.*

Ellen Anderson suggested that an additional representative from a program providing alternatives or diversion from impaired driving (i.e. designated driver projects) should be included in the task force.

**Working Group** = Chief Wolfenbarger, Glenn Davis, Bill Young, Paul Hofmann, Emily Tompkins, Steve Hooper, Bear Kay

## Lightning Round

Steve Hooper: The interlock program is moving forward quickly with a few growing pains. A NHTSA-sponsored research team has identified Colorado as 1 of 6 states for interlock best practices. Our process for hearings & incentives (self-motivated) was applauded.

Donnie Patch: He likes it when Paul Wood is on vacation & he gets to come. When officers are on the street enforcing DUI laws, knowing that there are higher goals out there makes it feel more important and productive.

Paul Hofmann: Heather Halpape has asked, in regard to the new sentencing law - how many of those DUIs were repeat offenders? The law states that the D.A. must have the information at sentencing. Steve Hooper stated that it may be hard to get that information before disposition of the case. Distribution numbers on administrative revocations could be pulled. Chief Wolfenbarger stated that when the Patrol has big enforcement weekends, troopers can check priors & let the public know how many were repeat offenders.

Ellen Anderson: Aspen has regulation that you must be licensed to serve alcohol. Training (of officers and District Attorneys) and morale programs are key to keeping law enforcement personnel from burning out. Ellen is intrigued by the conversation on how we measure success. She hopes to attend part of the time since she was on Gov. Romer's task force and has done LEAF for years.

Ray Fisher: Metropolitan law enforcement agencies just completed its first metro DUI task force effort in quite a while. There were 22 arrests in 4 hours.

Dr. Timken – Interlock Enhancement Counseling – 1<sup>st</sup> training, 26 therapists Looking for more funding to do more. For 1<sup>st</sup> time, it went well. Changing providers guide, developing offenders workbook. Steve

## Interagency Task Force on Drunk Driving

---

Hooper noted that it was very well done. It included a module that introduced treatment techniques to use drive log data, with the hope of reducing recidivism. Colorado is on the cutting edge with this.

Chief Heather Coogan: With regard to the representative of people under 24, we're missing huge group of people. Drinking patterns often start around that age. Suggested that we look at criminal justice majors. Chief Wolfenbarger asked about the association of campus police chiefs and suggested that we could make a connection with that group & bring in their participation. Maybe the task force could offer an internship. Kris Johnson suggested that we could have a group specified rather than an individual in order to eliminate the scheduling issues that have caused problems for this representative in the past. Emily Tompkins noted that MADD had offered unpaid internships in the past and might have a representative for this age group. Tara Forst suggested working with student services or Greek life groups.

Kris Johnson: The Summit Prevention Alliance is working on several things, including recommendations and suggestions for groups obtaining special event permits. Not understanding the boundary of liquor licenses and using volunteer servers have been issues. Condensed courses are available for those groups. Ellen Anderson added that when there are 30,000 people at the "X games" in a town of 5,000 and alcohol service is huge, there are problems. The ITFDD should address special events and their impact on impaired driving.

Sharon Liu: The social norming program is being rolled out in Gunnison at Western State and information will be presented to the Task Force in October. Steve Hooper noticed that this program was being built in a closed, academic environment, with a strong partnership, and it is an exciting thing that could be replicated in other places.

Jennifer Gray: Almost 6 years ago, Jennifer lost her husband and one of her twin daughters to a drunk driver. Recently, she attended a SFST event and spoke to officers. She and her daughter also spoke on a victim impact panel for 175 offenders. She would be happy to speak to any groups that would like to have her. Chief Wolfenbarger would like to offer that to Capt. Jon Barba of the CSP Academy. Donnie Patch would also like for her to come to Weld County.

Chris Halsor: Our focus is that even though DUIs are misdemeanors, they are difficult to prosecute. He is also working on training and ways to incorporate multimedia training that officers can access anytime.

Steve Hooper: "Playitsafe.com" is now NODUICOLORADO.ORG and is expanding its site to include public DUI prevention information.