



Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Friday, March 13th
Friday, May 1st
Friday, July 10th
Friday, September 18th
Friday, November 13th

Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 23, 2026

Mission

The mission of the Colorado Task Force on Drunk and Impaired Driving (CTFDID) is to support the prevention, awareness, enforcement, and treatment of drunk and impaired driving in Colorado through strong partnerships with public, private, and non-profit organizations.

The CTFDID brings people together, creating a forum for victims and advocates to access many experts and resources in one place. It provides a formal mechanism to leverage resources in order to create a multi-faceted approach to solving a problem, which is often minimized and understated in our community. The CTFDID acts as a resource for the legislature, enabling it to consider more cohesive, well-thought-out proposals.

Welcome, Introductions, and Mission Statement:

- Lt. Colonel Josh Downing, Colorado State Patrol/ Co-Chair
 - Read Mission Statement
 - September and November Meeting Minutes
 - Attendance Taken
 - Executive Committee Votes
 - Katie Contos re-elected as secretary, Rebecca Green as vice chair, and Lieutenant Colonel Josh Downing continuing as chair

Media Relations and Upcoming Events:

- Sam Cole, CDOT, Office of Communications
 - CDOT will announce 2025 traffic fatality data:
 - Impaired driving deaths increased by 11%
 - Overall fatalities increased ~2%
 - 2026 Campaign Plans
 - General DUI Awareness Campaign
 - Launching summer 2026
 - Approx. \$300,000 media buy
 - DUI Enforcement Period Awareness
 - Messaging tied to 15 holiday enforcement periods
 - Cannabis-Impaired Driving Campaign
 - Launch around 4/20
 - Budget reduced by 50%
 - Psilocybin / Natural Medicine Campaign
 - Second year of public awareness messaging
 - Collaboration with therapy providers

- Express Consent Campaign
 - Targeting counties with: High DUI arrests; High toxicology refusal rates
 - Messaging will encourage not refusing chemical testing
- Leadership Transition
 - Sam Cole announced departure from CDOT at end of February 2026.
 - Margaret Robinson and Tamara Rollison will support transition until a replacement is hired.
 - Recognition of Sam Cole's 11 years of service and contributions to impaired driving prevention campaigns
- TIRF (Traffic Injury Research Foundation) Update on Impaired Driving State Evaluation
 - Colorado participating in state evaluation of impaired driving sentencing and treatment outcomes.
 - Survey requests sent to stakeholders.
 - Some confusion due to unfamiliar email senders.
 - Members asked to complete or forward surveys to appropriate colleagues.
- DUIColorado.org Website Redevelopment
 - Rebuild DUIColorado.org as a centralized resource for:
 - Public education
 - Treatment resources
 - Administrative license information
 - Ride alternatives
 - Legislator and stakeholder information
 - Status
 - Current content being migrated.
 - Additional administrative and prevention resources being added.
 - Request
 - Members encouraged to submit ideas for: Content; Resources; Public messaging; Target completion: late 2026 (tentative).

Statistics, State Fatality Numbers:

- Tuesday Black, CDOT
 - 2026 Year-to-Date (as of Jan 21)
 - 21 fatalities
 - Compared to 22 at same time in 2025
 - Breakdown
 - Pedestrian fatalities: 4
 - Motorcycle/scooter fatalities: 3
 - Bicycle fatalities: 0
- Reagan Chiaverini, CDPHE
 - Statewide Data (2025)
 - 638 fatal crashes
 - 698 total fatalities
 - Impairment
 - 34% of fatalities involved suspected impairment
 - Other Findings
 - 90 speeding-related fatalities
 - 27% involved impairment
 - Occupant Fatalities
 - 392 occupant fatalities
 - 189 unrestrained

- 49% of unrestrained fatalities involved impairment
 - High-Risk Times
 - Nighttime crashes: 49% suspected impairment
 - Peak time: 2:00 AM (77% suspected impairment)
 - Counties with Highest Fatalities
 - Weld
 - El Paso
 - Denver
 - Highest Fatalities Per Population
 - Pueblo County
 - Weld County
 - Adams County
- Crystal Soderman, DOR (refusals)
 - Toxicology Backlog
 - Blood test results currently ~140 days delayed.
 - Refusal Data
 - 563 refusals (Sept)
 - 42.4% refusal rate
 - 2025 Total
 - ~6,000 express consent refusals
 - Hearing Requests
 - Only ~45% request administrative hearings
 - Concerns Raised
 - Toxicology delays may impact: Court case timelines; Victim compensation claims; Dram shop liability cases
- Rachel Reinhardt, CSP
 - 2025 vs 2024 Impaired Crash Changes
 - Property damage crashes: +4.3%
 - Injury crashes: +3.2%
 - Serious injury crashes: +6.2%
 - Fatal crashes: +14.2%
 - November–December 2025 showed a dramatic spike in fatalities compared to previous years.
 - Possible contributing factors discussed:
 - Mild weather
 - Increased motorcycle activity
 - Multiple-victim crashes
- Public Crash Mapping Tool
 - CDPS demonstrated a public dashboard showing crash locations statewide.
 - Map allows filtering by: Impairment; Crash severity; Time; Vehicle type; Safety equipment; Driver demographics

Upcoming Items:

- Lt. Colonel Josh Downing, Colorado State Patrol/ CTFDID Chair
 - Discussion on Resources for Offenders when DUI occur
 - Provide treatment and recovery resources immediately after DUI arrest, including:
 - Information packet or folder
 - QR code linking to treatment resources
 - Victim impact messaging
 - DUIColorado website resources

- Key Considerations
 - Must avoid endorsing specific treatment providers.
 - Resources should be approved by Behavioral Health Administration (BHA).
- myownpath.com suggested as public treatment locator.
- Discussion on responsible drinking posters in bars/restaurants
 - Bathroom stall messaging with QR codes
 - Partnerships with alcohol distributors
 - Digital advertising retargeting via prevention websites
 - Messaging emphasizing immediate consequences (license suspension)

Subcommittees:

- Lt. Colonel Josh Downing, Colorado State Patrol/Co-Chair
 - Improving Data Accuracy
 - Reagan Chiaverini/Erika Dubray
 - Developing new recommendations for next year
 - Creating best practices guidance for toxicology data interpretation
 - Subcommittee engagement remains strong with consistent participation.
 - Standardized DUI Form
 - Subject matter experts finalized a recommended list of standardized elements.
 - Next step: design and formatting discussion.
 - Plan to present initiative to the State Traffic Records Advisory Committee (STRAC).
 - Objectives:
 - Improve consistency of DUI reporting statewide.
 - Reduce officer paperwork time.
 - Improve data quality.
 - Additional updates planned for:
 - Crash report updates
 - Better classification of emerging vehicle types:
 - e-bikes
 - scooters
 - electric vehicles

Legislative Updates:

- Brandon Nathlich, CSP
 - Senate Bill 26 introduced to address a child passenger safety statute loophole.
 - Current law exempts vehicles with gross vehicle weight over 10,000 lbs, including some large passenger vehicles (e.g., EV Hummers, F350 trucks).
 - Proposed change increases threshold to 16,000 lbs to ensure child safety laws apply to those vehicles.
 - Bill sponsors:
 - Senator Catlin
 - Senator Mullica
 - Two House sponsors
 - Bill had not yet been scheduled for hearing at the time of the meeting.
 - Government Data Purchase Bill
 - House Bill 26-1037
 - Concerns government purchase of personal data from third-party sources.
 - Colorado Department of Public Safety (CDPS) is opposed to the bill.
 - Assigned to House Judiciary Committee
- Rebecca Green, MADD/Fran Lanzer, Lanzer Strategies

- Several bills are currently in development or stakeholder outreach:
- Coroner Toxicology Reporting Bill
 - Intended to improve reporting compliance for toxicology data.
 - Aims to ensure accurate reporting to NHTSA's Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS).
- Ignition Interlock Expansion Bill
 - Working with MADD and legislative sponsors.
 - Goal:
 - Increase participation in Colorado's ignition interlock program.
 - Prevent offenders from waiting out license suspensions without installing interlock devices.
- Update Colorado law to align with MADD's model interlock legislation.
- "Crashes Not Accidents" Bill
 - Large statutory update replacing the term "accident" with "crash" in Colorado law.
 - Approximately 53 pages of statutory changes.
 - Led by AAA, Bicycle Colorado, and CDOT.
- Other Emerging Legislative Issues
 - Possible upcoming legislation involving:
 - THC beverage regulation
 - Rideshare regulation
 - Automated license plate reader regulation
 - Super-speeding penalties
 - Illegal passing laws
- Cannabis DUI Prevention Funding
 - Funding previously reduced from \$950,000 to \$450,000.
 - CDOT is requesting restoration of funding.
 - Stakeholders advocating for reinstatement.
- Legislative Climate
 - Tight state budget year
 - Increased scrutiny of:
 - Bills affecting prison populations
 - Fiscal impacts of legislation
- HALT Drunk Driving Act
 - Federal law requiring anti-drunk driving technology in vehicles.
 - Amendment attempting to weaken the law failed to pass.
 - Technology includes:
 - Driver monitoring
 - Breath sensing
 - Eye movement tracking
 - Drowsiness detection
- Purpose:
 - Prevent impaired drivers from operating vehicles.
- Concerns raised during legislative debate:
 - Civil liberties
 - Data privacy concerns (misconceptions addressed

Regional Task Force Items:

- Tuesday Black, CDOT
- Pikes Peak DUI Task Force

- Bylaws completed and under review.
- Task force membership continues to grow.
- Fremont County DUI Task Force
 - Newly established regional task force.
 - Meetings currently in-person only with plans for hybrid options.
- South Denver Metro DUI Task Force
 - Greenwood Village exploring creation of a new regional task force.
- Mesa County
 - Existing task force expanding focus to general traffic safety.

Lighting Round (Open to Public for comments):

- Full Spectrum Analysis of Impaired Driving Training
 - Adams County Humane Service Building
 - March 30th-31st
 - Grand Junction—July 27th and 28th
 - DUI arrest through conviction process
 - Standardized Field Sobriety Tests (SFST)
 - Drug recognition
 - Toxicology and poly-substance impairment
 - DUI prosecution strategies
 - Post-conviction supervision and treatment
 - Continuing education credits will be available.
- Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Training
 - Current class includes 12 officers from 9 agencies.
 - Graduation scheduled January 30, 2026.
 - Training includes:
 - Advanced drug impairment detection
 - Medical-level assessments
 - Toxicology indicators
 - Drug category identification
 - Participants will complete final certification in Kingman, Arizona.
- Colorado Traffic Safety Summit
 - Dates: July 14–16, 2026
 - Location: Grand Junction
 - Call for presentations currently open.
- Law Enforcement Recognition Events
 - Annual MADD & CDOT Law Enforcement Champion Awards
 - Denver Event
 - May 20, 2026
 - Empower Field
 - Western Colorado Event
 - July 16, 2026
 - Grand Junction
 - Held in conjunction with Traffic Safety Summit