

NEWSLETTER

International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training
P.O. Box 227; Van Meter, Iowa 50261



<http://www.iadlest.org>

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
Raymond W. Beach, Jr., Director
Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards



In this, my first installment in the IADLEST Newsletter, I would open by again thanking you for allowing me to serve as your president. I have enjoyed a long tenure as the Executive Director of the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards, serving in that position for the past ten years. It has been that experience as well as my active years in law enforcement that have led me to admire and value what IADLEST does. In the same spirit I look forward to our organization's future accomplishments.

My inaugural letter to our membership indicated that it is my desire to focus IADLEST energies in strategically identified directions that are supported by the consensus of our membership. I'd like to take a moment to expand on that comment. The use of strategic planning to identify organizational direction has grown among government entities over the past few decades, and it has served my own organization well. Strategic planning can be an effective tool amid demands to achieve higher levels of service in increasingly complex environments with diminishing resources.

Perhaps most significant about a true strategic planning process is the fact that it responds to key issues and problems presently facing an organization. Rather than assuming a fixed and predictable environment, strategic planning presupposes a changing, dynamic environment that is relatively unpredictable. Implicit in strategic planning is an emphasis on dialogue and input from stakeholders who will be impacted by goals that are adopted. As such, the process we envision for IADLEST will build consensus before decisions are made and should not produce surprises. Obviously, this will require significant effort, however I believe that the investment of work put forth in an IADLEST strategic plan will produce a stable guide for present and future IADLEST leadership.

My most recent activities have been focused on our ongoing commitments. Among our external responsibilities, we have secured continuation of our Umbrella Agreement with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). This pact was recently affirmed in a signed agreement executed with NHTSA representatives in Washington, D.C. Other NHTSA activities that have recently taken place include a Standard Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) training assessment for the state of Washington. This is the first in a series of SFST assessments that are set to occur in multiple states. Also, the SFST web page project has been extended to December 31, 2008. In another NHTSA initiative, IADLEST has secured a \$98,000 NHTSA Law Enforcement Instructional Systems Development template agreement to address comprehensive training for traffic safety and enforcement.

Apart from our NHTSA duties, IADLEST has secured professional liability and bonding coverage for key officials responsible for financial management, and we have submitted a COPS grant application for 2008 POST-Net funding. A recently concluded search process has resulted in the selection of Mr. Mike Becar, former POST Director in the State of Idaho, as our Projects/Contracts Manager to coordinate and oversee the growing list of IADLEST responsibilities.

IADLEST serves its members in many ways. Besides providing a sounding board for each of us to try out ideas and learn from our mutual experiences, IADLEST is a natural choice for government leaders who wish to transmit ideas and information to the field and to carry out national mandates. It is in that sense that I cannot overemphasize the importance of IADLEST and what it represents to our nation's leadership. As the year progresses, I plan to devote significant energy to continuing enhancement of this hard earned stature.

Editorial Note: The IADLEST Newsletter is published quarterly. It is distributed to IADLEST members and other interested persons and agencies involved in the selection and training of law enforcement officers.

The IADLEST is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization comprised of law enforcement training managers and leaders. Its mission is to research and share information, ideas, and innovations that assist in the establishment of effective and defensible standards for the employment and training of law enforcement officers.

All professional training managers and educators are welcome to become members. Additionally, any individual, partnership, foundation, corporation, or other entities involved with the development or training of law enforcement or criminal justice personnel are eligible for membership. Recognizing the obligations and opportunities of international cooperation, the IADLEST extends its membership invitation to professionals in other democratic nations.

Newsletter articles or comments should be sent to IADLEST; 2521Country Club Way; Albion, MI 49224

MEETING SCHEDULED

The IADLEST will meet in conjunction with the 115th IACP Conference. The IADLEST will hold its business and Executive Committee meetings at the Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel San Diego, One Market Place, San Diego, California. The Executive Committee will meet from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm, Saturday, November 8, 2008. The General Business meeting will be held from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm, Sunday, November 9, 2008. The Executive Committee will meet following the Sunday business meeting.

NHTSA

OLDER DRIVER – LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING AVAILABLE TO STATE AT NO COST

by: Doug Graves, Law Enforcement Training and Resources

As the baby boomers begin to reach retirement age, law enforcement is faced with a new challenge, the graying of America. In the next 30 years, over 55 million drivers over the age of 65 will be on our nation's highways. Today drivers over 70 years of age make up 10% of all licensed drivers.

In an effort to address this issue, NHTSA has developed the Older Driver Law Enforcement Training (ODLET) Program. IADLEST has been awarded a grant to help in the distribution of this training nationwide. IADLEST has contracted with Law Enforcement Training and Resources (LETR) to coordinate and oversee this program.

Mike Becar, former Idaho POST Executive Director, retired, and Doug Graves, former Idaho POST's Deputy Director, retired, have formed a partnership LETR to find ways to efficiently and effectively bring this program to the nation. The logical vehicle is through the state POST's. Over the next three years, LETR will provide at least one Train the Trainer program, in each of the 50 states. This will equip each state with a cadre of instructors to take the program to in-service officers statewide as well as their basic police academies. Along with providing the Train the Trainer program LETR will also be facilitating certification of the program in each state.

Many of you have already received letters from LETR explaining the program in greater detail and asking you to schedule a Train the Trainer session. If your state has not received a letter and you are interested in this program, contact Doug Graves by calling (208) 407-8640 or email at douggraves@cableone.net and make a request. We will be glad to bring this training to your state. The program is provided at no cost. LETR will provide instructors; pay their travel, and pay for all training material at each train the trainer session. Your state ODLET instructors, in turn, will learn how they can order student material for classes that they teach at no cost as well.

Following is an article written by Lt. Robert Ticer of the Arizona Highway Patrol that sheds additional light on the "Older Driver" issue. Ticer was instrumental in developing the Older Driver Law Enforcement Training Program and is among LETR's cadre of instructors.

TASERS AND OTHER CONDUCTED ENERGY DEVICES

by: U.S. Dept. of Justice, OJP Office of Communications

An expert panel of medical professionals found no decisive evidence of a high risk of death or serious injury from the direct effects of Tasers and other Conducted Energy Devices (CEDs).

The panel's interim report said the risk of a death or serious injury is low when police use Tasers against healthy adults. Certain groups of people may be at much higher risk of injury or death from Tasers. These groups include children, the elderly, pregnant women, and people who have heart disease. Police officers should avoid the use of Tasers against these populations unless the situation excludes other choices.

The Justice Department is aware of more than 300 cases of Americans dying after Tasers were used against them. Some were normal, healthy adults. Others had medical conditions such as heart disease, mental illness, or chemical dependencies.

The panel expects to release a final report in 2009. The report can be found at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/pubs-sum/222981.htm. The study and its findings will also be summarized on the NIJ Less Lethal Web topic page at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/topics/technology/less-lethal/welcome/htm>. Please contact Kevin A. Jenkins at (202) 514-0907 or kevin.jenkins@usdoj.gov for any further information or assistance.

CALIFORNIA POST OFFERS ONLINE TRAINING

by: Mike DiMiceli, Assistant Executive Director, California POST

The California POST Learning Portal, a secure website for law enforcement training and resources, has over 19,000 officers as registered users. Five interactive courses are currently available, and six other courses are in development. In addition, the portal hosts instructor development resources.

POST sees this medium as a cost-effective way to address some training needs of California officers. The training is available 24 hours a day to every agency and officer. Although upfront development costs can be significant, the cost per student to POST decreases as more officers complete the training.

California POST will make some of this training available to agencies outside California on a trial basis. Access to the learning portal and the training will be based on modest fees established for each course. Revenue from this training will support the development of new courses.

To see the Learning Portal and preview some of the courses, go to www.lp.post.ca.gov.

The Learning Portal will be on display at the IACP Conference in the exhibit area.

Questions about the California POST Learning Portal may be directed to Assistant Executive Director Mike DiMiceli, 916-227-2808 or mike.dimiceli@post.ca.gov

NEW COURSE AVAILABLE FOR EMERGENCY RESPONDERS IN MARITIME JURISDICTIONS

*by: Jo Brosius, Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium
Eastern Kentucky University*

September 16, 2008 Richmond, KY. The Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium (RDPC) is pleased to announce that a new Department of Homeland Security (DHS) certified course is available for delivery in the 50 states and five U.S. territories. The course, AWR 144 Port and Vessel Security for Public Safety and Maritime Personnel, was developed by the University of Findlay, an academic

partner of Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium (RDPC). The training is designed to provide rural/non-metropolitan first responders and public officials with the basic competencies associated with port and vessel security as well as a working knowledge of maritime security.

The Maritime Transportation System (MTS) relies on the inland waterways to import and export goods to the United States; and, therefore, the security of the facilities and vessels is vital to the economic life and stability of the country. Many high-risk terminals are located outside of large municipalities but share the same risk factors as larger ports. Emergency responders in these jurisdictions can effectively respond to terrorist incidents and natural disasters if they understand the threats and are familiar with the federally mandated security requirements and procedures.

This eight-hour course was developed to introduce the rural responder community to the maritime security requirements of the high-risk, regulated facilities and vessels in their jurisdictions. Through this course, rural first responders will gain a better understanding of the criticalities of the maritime system thereby increasing their ability to protect, prevent, respond to, and recover from any incident of an all-hazards nature. The participants will be given instructions concerning specific maritime security regulations affecting facilities and vessels. Potential hazards in the dock and vessel environment will also be identified. Topics discussed in this course include but are not limited to: threats to the MTS, maritime regulations, security levels, maritime environment safety issues; sensitive security information, responder considerations, and worker credentialing.

All training delivered by RDPC is certified by DHS and is offered tuition-free for a broad scope of stakeholders, including the traditional emergency response disciplines, and other emergency support functions as defined by the National Response Framework, as well as critical infrastructure owners and operators.

RDPC is a U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Training and Exercises Integration Secretariat partnership of academic institutions with a vision of creating an environment wherein rural communities across America will have the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to enhance the safety, security, and quality of life for their citizens. Current members of the Consortium include East Tennessee State University, Eastern Kentucky University, the University of Findlay, Iowa Central Community College, Northwest Arkansas Community College, and North Carolina Central University. Each of these institutions possess extensive and unique capabilities relating to rural emergency preparedness training.

For further information, contact Jo Brosius, Director of Communications at (859) 622-6445, or email the Consortium at info@ruraltraining.org. You may also visit the Consortium web site at www.ruraltraining.org. To schedule this or any other RDPC training, please contact the RDPC at 859-622-8994.

IMPROVING LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSES TO PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES

*by: Martha Plotkin and Kathy Lynch
Council of State Governments Justice Center*

The Council of State Governments Justice Center (CSG Justice Center), in partnership with the Police Executive Research Forum, has identified ten key ingredients found in successful law enforcement initiatives to provide better outcomes in officers' encounters with individuals with mental illnesses. They are outlined in *Improving Responses to People with Mental Illnesses: The Essential Elements of a Specialized Law Enforcement-Based Program*.

According to this Bureau of Justice Assistance-supported publication we are now making available, law enforcement officers nationwide regularly respond to calls for service that involve people with mental illnesses. On rare but highly publicized occasions, these incidents result in injury or death for the individual, officer, or others at the scene. More often, officers find they spend long periods of time on these complex repeat calls for service only to see the person cycling through the criminal justice system without any positive long-term effect. This publication provides guidance on how to improve these encounters.

We wanted to let you know of the CSG Justice Center's latest release about improving law enforcement officers' responses to people with mental illnesses. We have a diverse group of experts on the issue and related resources, so please contact Martha Plotkin: (240) 482-8579, mplotkin@csg.org or Kathy Lynch: (240) 482-8583, klynch@csg.org if we can help you make use of this information.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE INTRODUCTIONS

A new IADLEST Executive Committee was installed July 10, 2008, at the IADLEST business meeting held in Indianapolis, Indiana. The following is a brief biographical sketch of each of the Committee members.

President Raymond Beach, Jr., is the Executive Director of the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards. He has over 30 years of law enforcement experience that includes service in the states of Michigan and Florida. Mr. Beach holds a BA Degree in Criminal Justice Administration and MA in Higher Education Administration from Michigan State University. He is a life-long learner, having completing numerous continuing education opportunities including the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Law Enforcement Executive Development Program.

Ray is a nationally recognized criminal justice expert and consultant and has written and lectured extensively on police policy and procedures as well as the use of force. He is co-author of the book entitled *Emergency Vehicle Operations: A Line Officers Guide* and recently published *Defensive Policies, Developing, Writing and Implementing Valid Policies for Problem Oriented Policing*. Mr. Beach serves on several state and national committees/boards and is currently the chairman of the Michigan DARE Advisory Board. He remains active in his community volunteering in a variety of capacities in support of public education, charities, and youth athletics. Ray and his wife, Joy, have two sons.

First Vice-President Michael Crews was appointed Director of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Programs. He began his career with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) in 1987 as a Standards and Training Specialist in the Professionalism Program. Over the next several years, he held the positions of Research and Training Specialist, Field Services Specialist, and Training and Research Manager.

Mike was the manager of the Criminal Justice Information Program's Help Desk and Sexual Predator Program. He also served as the Training Manager in the newly created Leadership Center. He oversaw the development, delivery, and maintenance of the Foundational Leadership Program and worked closely with the training delivered through the Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute. Mike served as the Bureau Chief of Standards in the Professionalism Program overseeing Florida's Officer Discipline and Alcohol Testing Programs, as well as the Officer Records; Training Trust Fund, and Field Services Sections. In February 2004, Chief Crews was appointed as the Director of the FDLE Leadership Center and Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute. In July 2004, the FDLE Leadership Center and Executive Institute were consolidated under the Professionalism Program, and Director Crews was appointed to oversee all programs.

Prior to joining FDLE, he was employed as a certified correctional officer at Apalachee Correctional Institute and as a correctional probation officer in Tallahassee. He has also worked with the Florida Wildlife Conservation

Commission as a part-time officer. Mike is a graduate from Florida State University. He and his wife, Teri, have two children, Jennie and Kelly.

Second Vice-President Rusty Goodpaster served with the Bloomfield, Indiana, Police Department and Greene County Sheriff's Department prior to joining the staff at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in June of 1983.

In December 2005, Mr. Goodpaster was named Executive Director of the ILEA. Prior to that time, he was the Director of the Emergency Vehicle Operations training from 1985-1990, the Basic Recruit Training Commander from 1990-1995, and Deputy Director from 1995-1997 when he left to work in the field of drug prevention and education for two and a half years before returning to the ILEA in 2000. Mr. Goodpaster served as Director of Support Services upon his return until April of 2002 when he was once again named Deputy Director.

Rusty graduated in the 64th Basic Session at the ILEA, the 170th session of the FBI National Academy, the Executive Development for Law Enforcement Standards and Training Directors presented by the FBI in conjunction with IADLEST. He holds a Baccalaureate Degree in Criminal Justice for the University of Indianapolis.

Secretary Lloyd Halvorson is the Director of Peace Officer Training and Law Enforcement Degree Programs at Lake Region State College in Devils Lake, North Dakota. The Peace Officer Training Program is a one-semester North Dakota POST Certified Basic Academy, training and certifying approximately 60 police officers each year for the state.

Lloyd has a Bachelor and Masters Degree in Criminal Justice from Minot State University and over 1,600 hours of certified law enforcement training. He spent 10 years (1992-2002) with the Bismarck, North Dakota Police Department, serving as a patrol officer, investigator, accreditation manager, and patrol supervisor.

He was appointed to the North Dakota POST Board by the North Dakota Attorney General in October 2003. Lloyd completed his academy training in 1992 and is a licensed police officer in the state. In addition, he is a sworn Deputy Sheriff with the Ramsey County, North Dakota Sheriff's Department, is a volunteer 5th grade football coach, and has previously held elected positions as both a school board president and ambulance service squad leader.

Treasurer E.A. "Penny" Westfall is the Director of the Iowa POST. Prior to her appointment to the Iowa POST,

Penny was the Commissioner of Public Safety; Chief Deputy from the Story County Sheriff's Office; an assistant attorney general in Iowa, as well as a former county attorney in Pottawattamie County in Iowa.

Northeast Representative Patrick Bradley became the Director of the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commission March 17, 2004. Pat is a native of Erie, Pennsylvania, and started his law enforcement career with the Baltimore City Police Department in 1970 after receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in Law Enforcement and Corrections from Penn State University. Pat rose through the ranks of the department while serving in various administrative and operational positions. In 1984, he was promoted to major and assigned as Director of the Police Academy, an Academy he had attended less than 14 years earlier. Over the next decade, his Academy would graduate nearly 1,300 recruit officers for Baltimore City and surrounding jurisdictions. While running the largest Police Academy in Maryland, he re-entered school and graduated in 1991 with his Juris Doctorate from the University of Maryland School of Law.

In January 1994, Mr. Bradley retired from the Baltimore Police Department to accept an appointment as Deputy Director for the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions. In that capacity, he is responsible for the training of over 32,000 Police and Correctional Officers, Probation and Parole Agents, and Juvenile justice employees throughout Maryland. In 1974, he received his Master's Degree in Liberal Arts from the Johns Hopkins University. He returned to Johns Hopkins where, in 2000, he received a Graduate Certificate in Teaching in Higher Education.

Mr. Bradley is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association, The Maryland Correctional Administrators Association, the FBI National Academy Associates, the International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training, and the Maryland Bar Association. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence and on the criminal justice advisory boards for the Carroll Community College, and Community College of Baltimore County. Pat also served as the IADLEST 2006-07 President.

Southern Representative Peggy Schaefer has been in law enforcement since 1981, starting as a Deputy Sheriff with the Guilford County Sheriff's Office and then transferring to the Greensboro Police Department (GPD). With GPD, Schaefer worked on patrol, as a vice-narcotics detective and as the personnel, recruiting, and training officer. Since 1988, Schaefer has taught at the North Carolina Justice Academy specializing in Officer Safety, SWAT, Physical Fitness, and Instructor Development topic areas. She has

also been sworn as a reserve officer with the Fayetteville Police Department since 1988 as well. Since 1998, she has worked in a management capacity, rising through the ranks to the Director position in April 2006. Schaefer earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Guilford College with a double major in Sociology and Administration of Justice, and a Master's in Public Management from the University of Pembroke in 2004. She is married to a Fayetteville Police Sergeant, Steve Bates, and has four children.

Central Representative Charles "Chuck" Melville joined the Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training after serving 30 years as a police officer, first with the City of Southgate, KY(1975-77) then at the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (1977-2005) eventually rising to the rank of Chief of Police. He has been with the agency since 2005 when he was appointed to the position of Executive Director of the Kentucky Community Preparedness Program (KCPP). KCPP was a grant program funded through the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security to provide vulnerability assessments to small-and medium-sized communities throughout the Commonwealth. Melville served as the Branch Manager for Advanced Individual Training prior to his appointment as Director of the Training Operations Division in December 2007.

Mr. Melville received a B.S. degree in Police Administration from Eastern Kentucky University in 1977. He is a graduate of the 151st Session of the FBI National Academy and the US Secret Service Dignitary Protection Program. Melville is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. He has served as the president of the Northern Kentucky Police Chiefs Association and is a life member of the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police where he chaired the Professional Standards Committee which oversaw the Kentucky Law Enforcement Accreditation Program.

He has served on the Executive Board for the FBI's Northern Kentucky Joint Terrorism Task Force and the US Attorney's Anti-Terrorism Advisory Committee for the Eastern District of Kentucky.

Currently, Mr. Melville serves on the Board of the Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation and the Training Committee of the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police.

Chuck and his wife Tina have two adult daughters.

Midwest Representative Mark E. Damitio began his involvement with law enforcement in 1971 with the Thurston County Sheriff's Office, Olympia, Washington, as a volunteer. In 1978, he was hired as a police officer

by the Kent, Washington, Police Department. He graduated as the top academic student of the Seattle Police Academy class #104. In 1982, he was appointed as the department Training Coordinator. In 1986, he was assigned by request of the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission for a two year special assignment coordinating advanced training programs. From 1988 to 1997, Mark served with the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission beginning as an Assistant Training Coordinator and rising to Division Manager.

He was appointed Deputy Director of the New Mexico Department of Public Safety Training & Recruiting Division in July 1997. He supervised the day-to-day operations of the New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy and was responsible for the licensing and State compliance of ten satellite law enforcement academies. In February 2004, Mark was appointed Deputy Assistant Director at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center where he is responsible for the Continuing Education program.

Mark is a graduate of Highline Community College with an Associate Degree in Administration of Justice and from the University of Washington with a Bachelor's Degree in Society and Justice. He is a graduate of the FBI Northwest Law Enforcement Command College and the Central States LEEDS. He holds Law Enforcement Executive Certifications from the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission and the New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy.

West Representative Lyle W. Mann is the Deputy Director for the Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board (AzPOST). Lyle came to the AzPOST in August 1995 after 22 years with the Tucson Police Department, where he has risen through the ranks to the level of Captain. Prior to command assignments, he spent time in uniform patrol, and as a detective.

While working for the AzPOST, he served as the Basic Training Project Manger, the In-service Training Manager, and the Compliance Manager. His current responsibilities include video projections, academy training, calendar schools, emergency vehicle operator training and instructor certification programs. He is also the Boards' legislative lobbyist and responsible for the Administrative Rules under which the Boards operates.

Lyle has a Bachelor of Science, Public Administration, from the University of Arizona, and a Master's in Leadership graduate of the Arizona Law Enforcement Leadership Institute and the Senior Management Institute for Police presented by Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Immediate Past President George Gotschalk worked for the Virginia Commonwealth University Police Department; Richmond Sheriff's Office, the Department of Corrections, and the Richmond Regional Criminal Justice Training Center prior to taking a position with the Department of Criminal Justice Services on March 1, 1980. He is the Chief of Standards and Training for the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. He is a long-time member of IADLEST, serving on several committees. He more recently served on the Executive Committee, and the chair of the Audit and Nominations Committees. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from the Virginia Commonwealth University. He and his wife, Martha, have one son and live in the Richmond, Virginia, area.

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

The IADLEST will meet in conjunction with the 115th IACP Conference. The IADLEST business meeting is scheduled for 9:00 am to 3:30, Sunday, November 9, 2008, at the Manchester Grand Hyatt Hotel San Diego, One Market Place, San Diego, California. An IADLEST

Tentative Agenda

- I. Call to Order - Ray Beach (MI)
- II. Roll Call - Lloyd Halvorson (ND)
- III. Introduction of Special Guests and New Directors - Ray Beach (MI)
- IV. Approval of Minutes - Ray Beach (MI)
June 9, 2008, Business Meeting, Indianapolis, Indiana (Refer to the IADLEST October 2008 Newsletter)
- V. Treasurer's Report - Penny Westfall (IA)
General Account
USDOJ Grant Accounts
NHTSA Grant Accounts
- VI. President's Report - Ray Beach (MI)
- VII. Committee & Special Assignment Reports
Traffic Safety - Frank Kowaleski (VA)
Technology - Ray Franklin (MD)
Training and Standards - Mike DiMiceli (CA)
- VIII. Old Business
 - A. Future Annual Conferences
2009 Nevada - Richard Clark (NV)
2010 Texas - Tim Braaten (TX)
2011 Idaho - Jeff Black (ID)
 - B. Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium Meeting - Steve Otto (TX)
 - C. Older Driver - Law Enforcement Training - Doug Graves (LETR)
- IX. Regional Reports
 - A. Northeast - Patrick Bradley (MD)

- B. Central - Charles Melville (KY)
- C. South - Peggy Schaefer (NC)
- D. Midwest - Mark Damitio (KS)
- E. West - Lyle Mann (AZ)
- X. New Business
 - A. CALEA/IADLEST Training Standards Partnership - Steve Otto (TX)
 - B. Internet "Learning Portal" - Mike DiMicelli (CA)
- XI. Adjournment - Next Meetings:
Executive Committee Meeting: January 29, 2009; Washington, DC
Business Meeting: June 17, 2009; Reno, Nevada.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The IADLEST is proud and privileged to add the following new members. These professionals complement our Association's already extensive wealth of talent and expertise. We welcome them to the IADLEST.

Larry Birney, Director, Oklahoma POST, Ada, OK
Ann Bumbak, Maryland POST, Sykesville, MD
John Green, Assoc. Dir., POST, Hutchinson, KS
Audrey Martini, Michigan State University, E. Lansing, MI
Ivan Messer, Texas POST, Austin, TX
John Parmann, Idaho POST, Coeur d'Alene, ID
Shane Sturman, W-Z & Assoc., Downer Grove, IL
Robert Vehock, Louisiana POST, Baton Rouge, LA

POST DIRECTOR CHANGES

Oklahoma: The Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training announces the appointment of Dr. Larry Birney as its Director, effective July 1, 2008.

Dr. Birney comes to CLEET after 35 years with the San Antonio Police Department. While serving in San Antonio, he became a senior police executive achieving the rank of Captain. He was Director of the San Antonio Police Department Training Academy and commanded the homicide unit and was the Executive Officer of the Patrol Division.

Dr. Birney received his Ed. D. from the University of Texas San Antonio in Educational Leadership. He obtained a Master of Science from Texas A & I University in Educational Administration and his Bachelor of Science from Southwest Texas State in Law Enforcement. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and has published articles in Educational Leadership.



APPLICATION FOR
IADLEST MEMBERSHIP

Print Name

Title

Organization

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Area Code

Telephone

Area Code

Fax

E-mail Address

Sponsoring State Director Member

Type of Membership Requested:

Director (\$400)

Sustaining (\$200)

General (\$100)

Made check payable to **IADLEST** and mail
with application to:

IADLEST Treasurer

P.O. Box 226

Van Meter, Iowa 502621

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Association is available in one of the following categories:

Director Member is an agency membership available to the director or chief executive officer of any board, council, commission, or other policy-making body. This agency is established and empowered by state law and possesses sole statewide authority and responsibility for the development and implementation of minimum standards and/or training for law enforcement, and where appropriate, correctional personnel.

General Member is available to any professional employee of an agency represented by a director; any member of the board, council, commission, or other policy-making body of any state, to which a director is responsible; any professional employee of a criminal justice academy or training center at a national, state, or local level, or other persons actively involved in the training/education of law enforcement personnel; or individuals employed by or within any country other than the United States whose employment and responsibilities are deemed equivalent.

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LIFE MEMBERS INSTALLED

At its July 2008 Indianapolis, Indiana, meeting the Executive Committee approved the installation of Jeannie Nelson, Ph.D., and Doug Graves as life members.

Jeannie Nelson served as the IADLEST Secretary and Historian. She was a long time staff member of the Oklahoma POST and eventually became its director. Jeanne lobbied for and oversaw the construction of the new Oklahoma Law Enforcement Training Academy in Ada, Oklahoma.

Doug Graves served as the IADLEST Treasurer. Doug retired as the assistant director of the Idaho POST. Over the years, Doug served with the Clearwater County Sheriff's Office, Orofino City, Idaho Police Department, Office of the Attorney General, and the Idaho POST.

"CLOTHES MAKE THE COP"

Tom Hammarstrom, Executive Director, Arizona POST

You don't have to look hard to notice that there have been significant changes in the appearance of American law enforcement officers over the last several decades. Rank and file troopers are hitting the streets in a variety of new uniform packages ranging from shorts and polo shirts to what look like full blown SWAT uniforms. In my view, the evolution in how we present ourselves to the public has had both positive and negative impacts.

On the positive side, uniforms have become safer and more comfortable. This is no small thing, particularly in view of the bundle of new tools that make up today's work kit. On the negative side, we seem to be moving more and more toward the image of a combat soldier, rather than a community oriented peace officer. Does this matter? I think it matters because the way we dress impacts the way we act.

It is important to remind ourselves that we wear uniforms for a variety of important reasons. We want the people we serve to recognize us as peace officers, and we hope that recognition fosters confidence in our ability and integrity. Of perhaps of more importance, the uniform makes us highly accountable for our public conduct.

Without question our uniforms must be designed to make the officer safe and comfortable. The real task is to achieve these goals without appearing to be at war with the people we serve. If we look like combat infantry, do citizens feel that they are living in a combat zone? Are we likely to be more aggressive than we need to be?



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Our appearance does affect our behavior. Let's make sure we strive to project an image that reflects our community-oriented goals and values.

THE OLDER DRIVER LAW ENFORCEMENT CHALLENGES

by: Chris McNeil and Robert Ticer

Printed with permission from the American Bar Association

It is broad daylight, and you are a police officer on a freeway where the speed limit is 75 miles an hour. You come upon an older model car creeping along at 40 miles an hour. There is a line of cars backed up behind the crawling vehicle. Impatient drivers are honking horns, and when they swerve around the creeping vehicle and narrowly miss getting rear-ended by the speeding vehicles in the adjoining lane, they shake their fists and make obscene gestures at the super cautious motorist. You turn on your flashing lights, get no response, switch on the siren, and eventually you see the motorist slowly pull over to the shoulder and stop. The driver turns out to be a nice, sweet, elderly woman in her late eighties. What do you do?

Impaired driving is a serious danger in the United States for motorists and pedestrians. Many traffic crashes involving fatalities, serious injuries, and property damage continue to occur on the nation's highways because of drivers impaired by alcohol, drugs, or fatigue. Most of these statistics have been derived from law enforcement reporting, with little attention to the older driver who may be impaired by medication, illness, or factors associated with the natural aging process. Older (70+ years) drivers make up 10 percent of all licensed drivers. In the year 2000, there were 18.9 million older drivers licensed in the United States.

Between 1990 and 2000, this segment of the driving population grew nearly twice as fast as the total population. This age group makes up approximately 9 percent of the United States population but is involved in 13 percent of all traffic fatalities and 18 percent of all pedestrian fatalities. (NHTSA, U.S. Department of Transportation. *Traffic Safety Facts. 2001. DOT HS 809 475.*) With aging of the "baby boomers," the older driver population will continue to increase substantially in the upcoming years. The number of drivers 65 years and older will at least double over the next 30 years to approximately 55 million licensed drivers. (Jon E. Burkhardt, and Adam T. McGavock. *Tomorrow's Older Drivers. Who? How Many? What Impacts?* Prepared for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and NHTSA by Ecosometrics, Inc., Bethesda, MD., 1999.)

Research by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) found that older drivers are more likely to die in a crash due to their frailty than younger drivers. (NHTSA, U.S. Department of Transportation. *Issues Related to Younger and Older Drivers.* <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/olddrive/pub/Chapter1.html>. 2001.)

The older driver tends to drive short distances, during daylight hours, and primarily on weekdays. Automobile collisions involving older drivers overwhelmingly occur during these time periods. In addition, older drivers have a greater proportion of collisions while making left turns at intersections than do other age groups and are more susceptible to collisions while backing and making lane changes. (Michael Perel. *In Vehicle Systems. Aging Drivers Ahead: Design with Care.* ITS World, May 1998.) Older and younger (15 to 24 years of age) drivers have more crashes per miles driven than any other age group.

Common Examples of the Problem: Safe operation of a motor vehicle by an older driver may be compromised due to slower reaction times, increased sensitivity to glare, narrowed field of vision, and medical conditions such as Alzheimer's disease. (Richard M. Dubinsky, Anthony C. Stein, and Kelly Lyons. *Practice parameter: Risk of driving and Alzheimer's disease (an evidence-based review).* Report of the Quality Standards Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. June 2000.)

In addition, certain medications or combinations of medications can affect a person's ability to drive safely. Older drivers legally ingest prescription medication(s) prescribed by their physicians for health problems associated with the aging process. Similar to alcohol or illicit drug use, impairment from these prescription medications can affect the older driver's ability to drive safely. Fearful of losing their independence, many older drivers continue to drive even when they know that their ability to drive safely has diminished. Furthermore, the lack of convenient affordable transportation or the nonexistence of alternative transportation, especially if walking is not a viable option, may be factors that keep older people driving.

On a daily basis, law enforcement officers face the challenge of what to do with older motorists who are driving unsafely. The law enforcement officer is often tasked with traffic issues such as driving while impaired (DWI) investigations or other criminal activity and spends little time focusing on the older driver. It is common practice for law enforcement officers to release an older driver who was stopped for a minor traffic violation without issuing a citation or warning. These older drivers are released once the officer realizes that the driver is not a criminal or under the influence of drugs or alcohol. In addition, officers tend

to be more lenient with older drivers because they may remind them of their own parents or grandparents.

Similarly, if an older driver appears in court on a citation that might suggest the driver is impaired due to age or infirmity, the prosecutor may be inclined to dismiss the charge, particularly if the presiding judge has previously demonstrated leniency in such cases. Without assured backing from both the prosecutor and the court, law enforcement officers investigating possible unsafe driving might be equally unenthusiastic about pursuing cases when they appear to involve a violation that results from the driver's age-related impairment.

Law enforcement officers in all 50 states have the authority to refer drivers to the state motor vehicle department for a driver's license re-examination when factors indicate that the driver cannot operate a vehicle safely. These referrals arise from traffic collision investigations and traffic stops. Additionally, family members of older drivers often request that law enforcement initiate the driver's license referral process. Family members may be torn between their loved one's possible loss of independence and the safety of the motoring public when making the decision to initiate a referral. The law enforcement officer makes the final determination whether to refer the driver to the MVD for the driver's license re-examination. Once the law enforcement officer has made the determination to cite the older driver, prosecutors and judges must independently assess the driver and decide whether prosecution and some form of licensure action is warranted. In addition, the officer's referral to the motor vehicle department will carry with it a right to administrative review by the department's administrative law judge (ALJ). In each instance, governmental authorities may be confronted with the very real concerns raised by the older driver and members of his or her family. If it is determined that the driver cannot safely operate a vehicle, given his or her infirmities, then the consequences can be profound. Practically speaking, a prosecutor or judge may feel much less inclined to bring about the loss of a driver's independence when the driver is impaired due to advanced age, than if the driver is charged with DWI or some other alcohol or drug-related offense. With age-related impairment, all who assemble in the courtroom realize that a decision adverse to the driver could mean a radical and permanent change in the driver's independence, not just on the road, but in all aspects of daily life.

Innovations and Emerging Best Practices: Past law enforcement practices have had little effect in reducing traffic fatalities and serious injuries involving older drivers. To reduce such serious crashes, the following recommendations should be a major focus of law

enforcement as baby boomers approach their senior years: effective implementation of referral processes; consistent and fair enforcement, safety program partnerships, law enforcement officer training, and crash scene assistance programs.

Effective implementation of the referral process would be accomplished if law enforcement agencies provided information regarding alternative transportation and social service options to the driver or the driver's family to assist in the transition from driver to non-driver. It is important that family members and caregivers be involved in this process. The law enforcement officer should use the older driver referral process as a positive community policing opportunity. Enforcement should be consistent among all age groups. When officers fail to issue citations or warnings to the older driver for violations that should be recorded, they may be doing an injustice to the driver and the motoring public. If a driver's ability has diminished enough that he or she is stopped continuously for violations, a record of the violations could alert the motor vehicle department, court system, or family of the problem. The driver could then be examined to determine the cause of the unsafe driving. Often the problem could be a need for improved eyeglasses or a medication issue, not diminished driving skills. Officer Jon Bailey (Waltham, Massachusetts Police Department) conducts follow-up on older drivers who develop a pattern of unsafe driving. He found that overwhelmingly the reason for unsafe driving is a medical or visual problem that can be corrected by the driver's physician.

A handful of police agencies have begun partnerships with driver safety programs through AARP and the American Automobile Association (AAA) Foundation for Traffic Safety to refresh older drivers in traffic safety and provide them with information on how to conduct self-assessments of their driving skills. Speaking engagements about occupant protection, child safety seat use, pedestrian safety, and safe driving tips at senior citizen centers or senior social events provide law enforcement officers the opportunity to address safe driving issues. Continued officer training is imperative. Agencies that train officers in elder sensitivity will be more successful in interacting with the older driver and assessing hazardous situations. Deputy Dotti Burkett-Dreggors (Seminole County, Florida, Sheriff's Office) presents training for first responders titled "The Graying of America: How It Will Affect the Delivery of Law Enforcement Services," which addresses this issue. Training is available to law enforcement officers through the Alzheimer's Association for recognizing dementia and interacting with drivers who may be suffering from this disease. Training courses such as these could be conducted during annual in-service training or roll call training.

To assist older drivers at traffic crash scenes, the Shelton, Connecticut, Police Department, Shelton Senior Center, and the People’s Bank implemented a “Yellow Dot Program” to save lives. The program consists of placing a yellow sticker on the rear window of a driver’s car, which tells first responders to look in the glove compartment for pertinent medical information on the driver. A yellow card is placed inside the glove compartment that lists the driver’s medical allergies, physician’s name, hospital preference, and any other pertinent medical data. When a collision or medical emergency occurs, first responders can retrieve the information quickly and start the lifesaving process immediately, even if the driver is unconscious or in shock. In addition, some thought needs to be given to the options available once the officer has decided to issue a citation. The officer needs to be confident that prosecutors and judges, as well as ALJs from state MVDs, will recognize the serious risk involved in releasing older unsafe drivers back to the road if their age-related infirmities continue to pose a threat to the public. As the driving population ages, there’s a proportionately greater need to educate prosecutors, the defense bar, and judges about the risks associated with the older driver. At the same time, care should be taken to match the offense with the sanction. Unlike the drugged or drunk driver, an older unsafe driver likely needs less threat of jail than we know is required to change the behavior of a repeat DWI offender, for example. Many times, intervention through the administrative process, that is, by the administrative license suspension pending a medical evaluation and release is all that will be needed. In some cases, the administrative review process might include an assessment of the driver’s abilities, and match those abilities with a restricted license, rather than a suspended or revoked license. If sanctions are perceived to be too severe, there’s likely to be a diminishing return because law enforcement officers may be reluctant to raise the medical impairment issue in a timely manner. Furthermore, even when the medical impairment issue is raised, prosecutors and judges may seek to circumvent what appears to be an unjust, though lawful, outcome. Thus, this might be an area better suited to administrative action before an ALJ rather than pursuing a prosecutorial path akin to that used in addressing DWI cases.

Front line officers can do much to ensure the safety of older drivers, but it is imperative that law enforcement management be involved. It is important that law enforcement agencies partner with social service, transportation, senior citizen groups, emergency services, university research, area aging offices, and other applicable groups. Partnerships on roadway design/signage, help networks, innovative car designs, and strategic planning for the future will reduce traffic fatalities for all drivers, including those in the older

community, and can help develop successful community relationships.

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“NO MEAN STREETS”

*by: Jennifer Fisher, Instructor/Coordinator
North Carolina Justice Academy*

“No Mean Streets” was a slogan designed by two officers that recently participated in our web-based Aggressive Driving Enforcement course instructed by Jennifer Fisher. During the course, officers from the Huntersville Police Department and the Davidson Police Department learned what constitutes aggressive driving and how to approach the issue in their community. The two agencies partnered together to develop a multi-jurisdictional approach to combat aggressive driving on their streets. Through the Aggressive Driving Enforcement course, the officers developed an aggressive driving enforcement campaign calling it, “No Mean Streets.” The Aggressive Driving Enforcement course is one of many elective courses that officers can take when participating in our Traffic Enforcement and Investigation Certificate Program. Many of our courses are designed to prepare the officer and the agency to take what they have learned in class and apply those tactics to their jurisdiction providing them with the materials necessary to implement new traffic strategies and enforcement.

Established in 1999, the Traffic Enforcement and Investigation Certificate Program was designed to recognize the achievement of law enforcement professionals who have dedicated themselves to making the highways safer for our citizens. Officers, upon completion of this program, will have mastered several important aspects of traffic enforcement and related topics. All of this is achieved while demonstrating a high level of professionalism for themselves as well as their department. To participate in the program you must be a sworn law enforcement officer and have at least two years of full-time law enforcement experience. The Traffic Enforcement and Investigation Certificate Program requires five hundred (500) hours of traffic-related training. Core courses include:

| | |
|---|--------|
| Introduction to Traffic Crash Investigation | 40 hrs |
| At-Scene Traffic Crash Investigation | 40 hrs |
| Drug Enforcement for Patrol Officers | 20 hrs |
| Intoximeter, Model Intox EC/IR II | 35 hrs |
| RADAR Operator | 32 hrs |
| Standardized Field Sobriety Testing | 32 hrs |

The remaining hours of the training required to complete the certificate program are elective courses. Such electives include courses such as Aggressive Driving Enforcement, Traffic Homicide Case File Preparation, Traffic Law Refresher, Drugs that Impair Driving, etc. Presently, we have 95 graduates that have completed the Traffic Enforcement and Investigation Certificate Program.

Jennifer Fisher, Instructor/Coordinator for the NCJA, coordinates the certificate program and has worked with various agencies across the state to ensure that we are providing training that helps to keep our highways and roads a safer place. As congestion increases, so as the crimes being committed on those same streets. It is important to take time to learn about what crimes are occurring on your local streets and to develop strategies to combat this never-ending battle. More information can be obtained about our Traffic Enforcement and Investigation certificate program as well as other traffic-related courses offered at http://www.jus.state.nc.us/NCJA/teicp/TEICP_page1.html or by contacting Jennifer Fisher at jfisher@ncdoj.gov.

POLICE ACADEMY RANGE MANAGER WINS GOLD MEDALS AT INTERNATIONAL POLICE GAMES

*by: Melissa C. Munn, Media Relations Coordinator
South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy*

South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy Range Manager John McMahan won five gold medals and two bronze medals Monday, August 18, and Tuesday, August 19, in the Shotgun Skeet and Trap events of the International Police and Fire Games in Orlando, Florida.

McMahan scored 49 out of 50 in the Skeet Singles event, earning a gold medal; 44 out of 50 in the Skeet Doubles event, earning a bronze medal; 93 out of 100 in the Skeet High Overall, earning a bronze medal; 48 out of 50 in the Trap Singles, earning a gold medal; 49 out of 50 in the Trap Doubles, earning a gold medal; and 97 out of 100 in the Trap High Overall, earning a gold medal. McMahan's total finish of 190 out of 200 also merited the Combined Events High Overall gold medal.

The International Police and Fire Games are held every two years and consist of approximately 40 different events ranging from indoor competitions such as bench pressing, table tennis, and bowling, to outdoor events such as swimming, archery, and track and field.

The games are open to any certified full-time police officer or fireman worldwide. Competitors travel the globe to attend the games. While this year's events were

based in the U.S., the 2006 games were held in Sao Paulo, Brazil; the 2002 games in Ottawa, Canada; and the 1998 games in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

The police games can be traced back to Duke Nyeus who along with several other law enforcement officers started the Olympic-style games in California. The very first national games were held in 1971 in Phoenix, Arizona; and the international games were officially established the following year in 1972 in San Francisco, California.

Academy Director Hubert Harrell praised McMahan's achievements. "The caliber of our instructors is second to none, and Mr. McMahan is representative of the high level of training of our Academy officers. I see it as a job well done."

McMahan said this year's games were held during Tropical Storm Fay, which made shooting conditions difficult. However, because no lightning was present, the games' organizers chose not to cancel or postpone the events." Participating in the games "was a great opportunity to put the Academy on the map with other members of the national and international law enforcement community. To compete against officers from NYPD to Moscow PD makes you put forth that extra effort because you are not only representing yourself and the Academy, but all of the officers and firefighters of South Carolina."

MANAGING & MONITORING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INTERVIEWER

*by: Shane G. Sturman, CFI - President
Wicklander-Zulawski and Associates, Inc.*

Whether you're a consultant or employee of an in-house loss prevention department, there is a significant amount of pressure to be productive in the interview arena. Without being present for every interview that occurs, how can managers assure the effectiveness of their staff? There's never going to be a perfect system, or a perfect investigator, so let's discuss easy-to-implement tips that benefits both the investigator and the organization.

Establishing best practices for monitoring the effectiveness of your staff might be a time-consuming project, but the opportunity for the return on this investment is infinite. Some key areas to focus on are as follows:

Timeliness to response – Be proactive verses reactive

Quality of investigation – A simple checklist goes a long way. Helpful questions include:

- Have all CCTV tapes been reviewed and secured for investigative interview?

- Have all exception reports been generated and researched prior to conversation?
- Have all pertinent documents been included with the case file, including background information?
- Have all necessary conversations with management taken place prior to interview?
- Is the witness selected appropriate and willing to follow guidelines given?
- Has an appropriate arena for the interview been selected?
- Has a strategy and back-up plan for conducting a through conversation been selected?
- Has a realistic goal for the outcome of this conversation been considered?

Developing interview skills and admissions – Expanding admissions is a direct result of the interviewer’s ability to evaluate human behavior during the course of the interview.

Taking strong statements – Nothing protects an organization more than thorough documentation.

Challenge your team – Challenge your folks to spend time to document pieces of the process that worked and those that didn’t. Focusing on both the strengths and weaknesses of each particular staff member shows a dedication to improving the department. Here are several techniques that can easily be implemented:

- Recognize individual members of the team.
- Test team members’ skills by examination and role-playing scenarios.
- Establish self-critiques for your investigators and require they be completed on a timely basis and reviewed consistently.
- Get involved in the field. Face time pays!

Education – Investing in a course on interview and interrogation such as Wicklander-Zulawski’s 2-day Interview and Interrogation Techniques would improve the interviewer’s ability to get and expand admissions. Without constant exposure to this arena, we tend to get a little rusty.

About the Author: *Shane G. Sturman, CFI®*, is the President of Wicklander-Zulawski & Associates, Inc. He is a nationally-recognized speaker on interview and interrogation techniques and has presented hundreds of seminars on the topic to federal agencies, law enforcement, and the private sector. As an investigator, Mr. Sturman has personally conducted thousands of interviews and interrogations for both private and public agencies.

Mr. Sturman received his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management from the University of Phoenix. Mr. Sturman is also a member of the American Society for Industrial Security, a member of the ASIS Retail Council, a Certified Protection Professional (CPP), and a Certified Forensic Interviewer (CFI®).

Wicklander-Zulawski & Associates, Inc., (WZ), is widely recognized as the premier consulting and training company in the field of interview and interrogation techniques. The company is dedicated to assisting public and private sector professionals to improve their interviewing ability to obtain the truth through legally acceptable techniques. More information on training courses and seminars can be found at www.w-z.com.

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER FATALITIES PLUMMET 41 PERCENT DURING FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 2008

*by: Kevin Morison
National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund*

Washington, DC – After an unexpected surge in 2007, the number of law enforcement officers killed in the United States plummeted 41 percent during the first six months of this year, reaching the lowest level in more than four decades, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF) and Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) have announced.

The groups’ preliminary data show 59 officers died between January 1 and June 30, 2008. The last time the mid-year total was that low was 1965, when there were 55 line-of-duty deaths. By comparison, 100 law enforcement officers died in the line of duty during the first six months of 2007. That was the highest six-month total since 1978. By the end of 2007, a total of 181 law enforcement officers had lost their lives in the line of duty, which was 20 percent higher than the previous year,

“While these statistics offer little comfort to the loved ones and colleagues of those officers who made the ultimate sacrifice this year, for the law enforcement profession as a whole, the preliminary numbers for 2008 are encouraging, especially in light of the dramatic increase in officer deaths that occurred just last year,” said NLEOMF Chairman and CEO Craig W. Floyd. “It is our hope that 2008 will usher in a new era in which far fewer law enforcement officers are injured or killed in the line of duty,” he added.

“The tremendous decrease in officer deaths so far this year is encouraging. However, the families of America’s law enforcement officers know full well that each and every day is filled with risk and at any time the number of officer deaths can soar again,” said Jennifer Thacker, C.O.P.S. National President. “C.O.P.S. is actually seeing an increase in the number of requests for services from our membership of over 15,000 surviving families because of the large number of deaths in 2007. We keep hoping and praying that the number of law enforcement line-of-duty deaths will continue to decrease,” she said.

This year’s decline has been driven by substantial reductions in all types of officer deaths, especially fatal shootings. The number of officers shot and killed declined

45 percent, from 38 during the first half of 2007 to 21 this year. That was the lowest number of firearms-related fatalities since 1960, when there were 18 such deaths.

Traffic-related deaths were down by nearly 35 percent, from 46 during the first half of 2007 to 30 in 2008. Among those, 21 officers died in automobile crashes, three died in motorcycle crashes, and six were struck and killed by other automobiles while outside their own vehicles. If current trends continue, 2008 will be the 11th year in a row in which more officers are killed in traffic-related incidents than by gunfire or any other single cause of death.

Eight officers died during the first six months of 2008 from other causes, including five who succumbed to job-related physical illnesses and two who were fatally stabbed.

Texas, with seven deaths, experienced the most law enforcement officer fatalities during the first half of 2008. California had five fatalities, followed by Georgia, with four, and Ohio and Oklahoma, with three each. Twenty-six states and the U.S. Virgin Islands experienced officer fatalities between January 1 and June 30. Four members of federal law enforcement also died during this time period.

Saying it is impossible to isolate a single cause for this year's stunning decline in officer fatalities, Mr. Floyd noted that increased awareness of officer safety issues was undoubtedly a factor. "The dramatic surge in officer fatalities in 2007 grabbed the attention of law enforcement professionals, policymakers, and trainers across the nation which, in turn, prompted many agencies to bolster their officer safety procedures and equipment," he said. "Last year's shockingly high fatality figures were an important reminder to officers to treat every assignment as if it were potentially life-threatening, no matter how routine or benign it might seem." Mr. Floyd also credited an increased emphasis on law enforcement driver training, "move over" laws, and other traffic safety measures for making it safer for officers on our roadways, where the majority of our officers lose their lives.

The statistics released by the NLEOMF and C.O.P.S. are preliminary and do not represent a final or complete list of individual officers who will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in 2008. The report, "Law Enforcement Officer Deaths, Mid-Year 2008," is available at www.nleomf.org. For information on the programs that Concerns of Police Survivors offers to the surviving families of America's fallen law enforcement heroes, visit www.nationalcops.org.

IADLEST POST-NET AUGUST 2008 UPDATE

by: Ray Franklin, Assistant Director

Maryland Police and Corrections Training Commissions

POST-Net Annual Conference Meeting Report: As reported at the recent Annual Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana, all POST-Net public and member services remain fully operational. Site hits for the period from October 2, 2007, through June 18, 2008, averaged 2,574 per day. This indicated a modest 3% decrease in site access from what was reported at the Spring 2007 Conference.

We continue to expend 2004 grant funds, with additional, unspent funds remaining in a 2005 grant award. Although subsequent funding was denied within the recent 2008 COPS funding solicitation, a later invitation was made to request somewhat reduced funding. I was happy to report at the recent meeting that I received confirmation on July 7 that COPS will refund our POST-Net initiative in the amount of \$42,540. A new application for funding has been prepared and forwarded to IADLEST officers.

I was also happy to report that outstanding issues of fund draw down and deposit have been remedied. Great thanks are due to our leadership - especially Treasurer Penny Westfall and Executive Director Pat Judge for their persistent efforts to resolve these difficulties.

I reported on several new web features, including law enforcement leadership initiatives with the Department of Justice and the Leadership Consortium, as well as the addition of new POST member survey results on our Member Services intranet.

POST It Manager Listserve: Some interest has been expressed in establishing a new group mail service for POST IT managers. Does your agency employ a technical services specialist responsible for the supervision of training and certification information management, registration, office automation, or network services support? Please advise me of any interest. The new list could provide real help in meeting the specialized information management challenges to POST agencies.

Sobriety Testing Resource Center: The Resource Center broke the 6,100 member mark on July 23. We are still seeking a short term funding extension while the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration issues a new solicitation for expanded SFST and DRE services. I would certainly welcome members "weighing in" regarding their opinion on pursuing a new grant award.

National Decertification Index:

With the denial of refunding of the Decertification Index, project staff have started reprogramming of database software to enable a subscription or fee per query method to support sustainability. The system now stores usage data, provides a POST agency exemption flag and calculates a record contribution billing offset, all features to allow billing, yet provide cost-free use by POST agencies.

An important product of our original BJA funding was the first, national "Survey of POST Agencies Regarding Certificatin Practices." I have had preliminary discussions with the faculty of Seattle University's Graduate Research and Statistics Program regarding a 2009 follow-up survey of state POST agencies to provide without cost, updated data and longitudinal analysis.

National Academy Network: With initial draw down and deposit issues resolved, necessary equipment and software have been solicited, ordered, and received. The web site is currently planned to "go live" by early Fall 2008.

The application deadline for the important part-time position of Content Manager was July 31. I have identified a highly qualified candidate, nationally recognized within the law enforcement training community and a past IADLEST member. Without steering committee objection, I will move forward with the selection process.

I have also engaged the services of a student intern, in accordance with the approved project application. Mark Hiller, who previously worked on both De-certification Index and Sobriety Testing Resource Center projects, will develop the primary academy listserve directory and mailing list. Mark has already contacted many of you personally.

As we develop the master academy faculty invitation list, your contribution of email addresses for academy personnel in your state will be critical to our success and necessary to ensure that your state's coordinators are properly represented and served.

Got a list of academy training personnel? Send it to me at rfranklin@iadlest.org. I promise that it will be used for invitations only. Participants must request addition to the actual distribution list and secure access to the network.

Discussions have taken place with staff of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) and the COPS funded Community Policing Professional (CPP) project regarding provision of N-LEARN services. It is expected that the national CPP effort will greatly benefit

from participation in N-LEARN and that CPP technical and intellectual resources will significantly enhance the use of the Network.

Department of Redundancy Department: I am generally available on Wednesdays from 1:30 to 7:30 pm ET to update your state information and links, answer questions about using the system and generally support your Internet endeavors. Call anytime if it is urgent. My telephone number is 410-875-3604. You may e-mail me at rfranklin@iadlest.org.

This project was supported by cooperative agreement 97CKWX0022 / 2002CKWXK045 / 2003CKWXK072 / 2004CKWXK010 / 2005CKWXK010 awarded by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, U.S. Department of Justice. Points of view or opinions contained within this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

**DRAFT BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
JULY 9, 2008, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA**

CALL TO ORDER: President Gotschalk (VA) called the meeting to order at 8:03 am.

ROLL CALL: Secretary Lloyd Halvorson (ND) conducted the roll call for those in attendance. Representation from 26 states was present to allow a quorum. These include: Arizona, California, Delaware, Office of Federal Law Enforcement Training Accreditation, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

President Gotschalk stated the purpose of this meeting is to elect a Treasurer and Second Vice-President for the association. The remainder of the agenda will be addressed at the regularly scheduled General Business meeting on July 10, 2008 at 8:00 am.

President Gotschalk stated the Nominations Committee has forwarded the name of Rusty Goodpaster (IN) for 2nd Vice-President and our appointed treasurer, Penny Westfall (IA) for Treasurer. He stated that there was a nomination for Theresa Satterfield (MA) for Treasurer; however the nomination was withdrawn. President Gotschalk called for nominations from the floor. No nominations were offered from the floor. Hearing no additional nominations, Gotschalk turned the podium over to 1st Vice-President Ray Beach to conduct the election pursuant to the IADLEST by laws.

Beach informed the members that each candidate for office must be given an opportunity to make a statement regarding

their nomination and candidacy for office. In addition, each candidate for office must agree to serve and be a member in good standing.

Westfall made a short statement regarding her past year as appointed treasurer and emphasized her desire to ensure proper accounting procedures are followed, that the IADLEST financial records are audited regularly, and that there is complete transparency.

Goodpaster also made a short statement regarding the value of IADLEST membership, that he is ready to take on this position of leadership, and emphasized the need to plan strategically for the future.

After the candidate presentations, Beach asked for a voice vote for Westfall to assume the position of Treasurer. All were in favor with no one opposed. Beach then asked for a voice vote for Rusty Goodpaster to assume the position of 2nd Vice-President. All were in favor with no one opposed. Beach congratulated both members and thanked them for their willingness to serve the association.

MOTION by Herb Bowling to suspend the General Business Meeting until its regularly scheduled time. SECOND by Dick Clark. MOTION CARRIED with all in favor.

(Reconvened from July 9, 2008)

INTRODUCTION OF MEETING GUESTS:

President Gotschalk announced the names of the new POST Directors since June 2007.

California: Paul Cappitelli, Executive Director
Delaware: Ralph Davis, Director of Training
Georgia: Ken Vance, Director
Montana: Wayne Ternes, Executive Director
Minnesota: Mark Thatcher, Executive Director
New Hampshire: Donald Vittum, Director
New York: John Bilich, Deputy Commissioner
Ohio: Tomi Dorris, Director
South Carolina: Hubert Harrell, Deputy Director
Wisconsin: Kenneth Hammond, Director

Those new POST Directors and additional new members that attended introduced themselves and were welcomed to the association.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION by Lee Goldman (MA) to approve the minutes of the October 13-14, 2008, Business Meeting in New Orleans. SECOND by Dick Clark (NV). MOTION CARRIED with all in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Westfall stated that a lot of time and effort has been expended to get the grant accounts in their proper form and was pleased to have accomplished this task. She stated that a comprehensive audit is underway to ensure the accounting practices of IADLEST meet sound principles. She presented the balance sheet for the following accounts:

- **POST NET:** Balance of cash on hand July 7, 2008, \$6,215.85.
- **NHTSA SFST:** Balance of cash on hand July 7, 2008, \$11,137.05
- **Decertification Database:** \$10,632.09
- **IADLEST General Account:** Since January, 2008, revenue totals include \$18,230 from memberships and sales of the Reciprocity Handbook and the Sourcebook. Expenses total \$28,633.19. These expenses, since January, 2008, are primarily for Executive Committee travel to Washington DC for NHTSA meetings, a \$5,000 loan to the Older Driver Grant account and Executive Director compensation. Balance of cash on hand July 7, 2008, \$89,967.35
- **Older Driver Grant:** Balance of cash on hand July 7, 2008, \$4,989.40.

MOTION by Frank Kowaleski (VA) to accept the Treasurer's Report. SECOND by Peggy Schaefer (NC). MOTION CARRIED with all in favor.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Leadership Consortium: President Gotschalk introduced Second-Vice President Mike Crews to discuss the current status of the Leadership Consortium. Crews stated that this initiative began a couple of years ago in South Carolina. Spears Westbrook has been the primary catalyst, and numerous states and several other countries have expressed interest in the issue of leadership. Next week the consortium will have another meeting. Crews stated that this consortium currently does not have a home and has requested that IADLEST partner with them. He stated that he had planned to formally introduce a resolution of support; however, it was not prepared in time for introduction at this meeting.

Academy Standards: Mike Parsons (WA) stated that we have been working on accreditation standards for academies for several years. CALEA currently has a program, but it is somewhat insufficient and costly. There are over 700 academies, and currently no minimum standards exist. We currently have a draft of minimum standards that are ready to be formally put in place should IADLEST decide to begin the process of accrediting academies.

Single Clearinghouse for Training Credit: President Gotschalk stated that Mark Willingham from Northcentral University wants IADLEST support to conduct a survey of academies to determine length and content so his college can award an accurate number of college credits. He has endorsements already from several professional associations and would like IADLEST's endorsement as well. Kelly Michelson (AZ) asked the membership to be careful endorsing any one college or institution. Dick Clark (NV) stated that many institutions give credit for police academy completion already and felt it would be improper to endorse this specific institution. Gotschalk stated that Willingham was told at the Executive Committee Meeting that he would need to submit his exact request in writing before the Executive Committee would be able to consider it.

NHTSA Umbrella Agreement: Ray Beach reported that NHTSA has not yet signed the final Umbrella Agreement. It is unknown exactly what it contains and whether or not they have accepted IADLEST's addendum. Beach stated that the association is in the process of hiring a Grants/Contract Manager as we have been awarded the necessary funds we requested in January 2008. There was a six month delay in our process as NHTSA did not release the necessary funds. Earl Hardy has informed us that we now have the funds and the authority to proceed. Mike Crews will continue to work on this and will set up interviews in the near future. We have also agreed to proceed as soon as possible with the projects, but getting the Grants Manager on board is our main priority right now. Tomi Doris (OH) cautioned the members to proceed with caution and ensure everything "approved" by NHTSA is in writing from them and the proper contracts are in place.

Future Meeting Dates: Next Business Meeting will be in San Diego, CA, November 8-9, 2008. The next Executive Committee Meeting will be January 29, 2009, in Washington DC.

COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT REPORTS

Traffic Safety: Frank Kowaleski (VA) provided a comprehensive report on the 2008 Traffic Safety activities affecting the association. He has been appointed to the IACP Highway Safety Committee and has attended two four-day committee meetings, serves on the IACP Technical Advisory Panel-attending 2 meetings, and the National LE Challenge subcommittee. He has participated in two on-line reviews regarding his assignment to the DRE-SFST curriculum review committee. He has been appointed as Co-chair of the Training Committee for the National Unified Goal (NUG)

and has participated in six teleconferences and two webinars for NUG development. Kowaleski has been able to participate in meetings regarding fuel saving ideas, the LE Officer Killed and Assaulted reporting form, the new highway safety goal to reduce fatalities, and other highway safety initiatives including a new video that will be geared to the line officers entitled "Saving Lives One Stop at a Time". He provided the members with the IACP Highway Safety Committee's 2008 proposed training goals and the new training programs available from NHTSA through their website. The next major Highway Safety initiative will be the 2008 Labor Day Crackdown August 15-Sept. 1, 2008.

Technology: Ray Franklin (MD):

- **POST-Net** services continue to be operational. We are seeing an average of 2,574 site visits per day. This is down approximately 3% from the spring. There is a new Financial Manual online. He stated that the 2008 funding request was denied; however, he spoke with the COPS Office and they requested a new application. It appears there will be a good chance at getting re-funded in the amount of \$42,540.

- **Web Services** for both LELI (www.leliproject.org) and NLC (www.nationalleadershipconsortium.org) can be linked from our website. There is also a Court Cost Funding Survey online. Franklin also reported that the daily LETN newscast has been terminated for now.

- **The National Sobriety Testing Resource Center** has been an overwhelming success. They recorded their 6,000th registered user on June 19. The new six-month extension will assist with travel for the Project Director, Project Manager, Secretary, and Treasurer; and will assist the association with related travel costs. Franklin expressed high praise to Dan Setzer for his continued work on this project.

- **National Decertification Index** has 26 participating states which shows no increase since last fall's report. The index has exceeded the 10,000 mark for submissions. Police hiring entities were allowed query access on November 1, 2007. Unfortunately, our re-funding request was denied. We are proceeding with an effort to provide a cost per query and or a subscription funding plan.

- **N-Learn** is a project in progress to network all 700 plus US Law Enforcement training academies. It has been approved for \$306,000 in NIJ funding that was effective December 1, 2007, for two years. These funds include \$32,000 for IADLEST administration and financial services; and because of the heavy focus and input needed from the regions, \$58,560 for regional representatives' travel to executive committee meetings, the annual conferences, and business

meetings. Franklin stated they have completed the web design and installed the equipment that had been rebid, ordered, and finally delivered. He is in the process of soliciting applications for the Content Manager position and extended the solicitations until July 31. There is also a part-time intern that will begin in July. Franklin stated that they will be attempting to assemble the list of key academy personnel to generate the e-mail addresses that will be needed.

- **Sourcebook:** Franklin reported that the Sourcebook is available by contacting him.

MOTION by Bradley (MA) to accept the Technology report. SECOND by Culp (KS). MOTION CARRIED with all in favor.

Training and Standards: Mike DiMiceli (CA). DiMiceli reported that the Sourcebook has encountered some difficulty in updating from the 2005 version due to personnel changes in the association. Pat Bradley asked if we were able to reconstruct it into an online format and then be able to facilitate the collection and organization of the data. During Bradley's term as president, significant changes were proposed to shorten up the survey instrument and reduce the amount of information reported. The newest version has the information from law enforcement only with the correctional information removed. It was reported that the Sourcebook survey instrument is available on the DJS website to submit information. At least 100 questions have been removed making it much more user friendly. We have yet to test the new system and exactly who will do the analysis has not been identified.

It was proposed that a working group of IADLEST members was needed to test the new system. This working group could make recommendations on content and appearance and be responsible for a marketing plan, oversight, and the contribution of data. DiMiceli stated it is possible for the 2008 Sourcebook to be available in the first quarter of 2009 if we get going on it now. It was decided that the working group would be made up of Ray Franklin (MA), Mike DiMiceli (CA), Kelly Michelson (AZ), Jeff Black (ID), and Rob Vehock (LA).

Ray Beach inquired as to why DJS is hosting our Sourcebook survey instrument on their site. Franklin stated that they have the technology to do it, volunteered to host it, and that it is free.

MOTION by Pat Bradley to accept the Training and Standards Committee report. SECOND by Lee Goldman. MOTION CARRIED with all in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

2009 Annual Conference, Sparks, Nevada: Dick Clark (NV) reported the conference in 2009 will be in Sparks, Nevada, June 14-17 (Sunday through Wednesday); and the conference hotel has given the association a rate of \$90 per night and will honor that rate for three days before and three days after the conference. There is a spa, pool, casino, and shuttle service available. The hotel has nine restaurants, a celebrity show room, and there are 40 golf courses within a one-hour drive. He is considering a Gordon Graham training session and provided a list of topics that he has to choose from. He asked for input from the members as to what they would like to see him speak on. He is also planning an attorney round table, a training directors' roundtable, and a training session on physical fitness validation studies. He is planning a dinner cruise on Lake Tahoe and possibly a trip to Virginia City. The conference hotel is the John Ascuaga's Nugget Resort.

NSA: Steve Otto (TX) reported that the NSA currently has two chairs available for IADLEST to utilize on the Ethics, Standards, and Accreditation Committee and on the Education and Training Committee. He stated one IADLEST member should be able to serve the association on both committees. Ray Beach called for volunteers that have the time and talent to step up and become involved in committee work for the association. These are important positions for IADLEST and will help us move forward.

Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium: Steve Otto is currently working with the advisory board for the consortium on rural domestic preparedness that is funded by DHS. The training will be a multi-disciplinary approach including representation from fire, EMS, and police. If you are interested in hosting the training, contact him; and he can assist you in getting it set up. Steve Otto stated a list of courses that are free of charge and ready to be delivered are available. Some of the courses are internet based and some are classroom based. He stated that the training host will be asked to invite EMS, fire, and medical professionals to the training. He stated there is an upcoming summit and the partners will be reaching out to the states for representation. More information can be found at www.ruraltraining.org.

Older Driver-Law Enforcement Training: Mike Becar and Doug Graves gave an update as to the grant work they are doing on NHTSA's Older Driver initiative. They stated they needed help from the POST Directors to identify students for the train the trainer portion of the program. They reported that everything will be provided free of charge to include manuals, DVD's, etc.

REGIONAL REPORTS

Northeast: Pat Bradley welcomed the new director from Delaware. Bradley will take over as the Regional Representative from the Northeast. Pennsylvania is planning to host at least one and possibly two regional meetings next year. Bradley expressed concern that we came close to losing the New Jersey POST Director as his position was initially cut. He wondered how we did not know this was happening and inquired as to what IADLEST could have done to help save this vital position. He felt we, as an organization, need to step up and step in on situations like this.

Central: Chuck Melville (KY) will take over as Regional Director this year. Their regional meeting had seven members in attendance. They discussed primarily funding issues.

South: Peggy Schaefer was elected Regional Representative for this year. She reported seven members present at their meeting. Primary discussion from Florida included considerable budget reductions to include the loss of 120 plus positions. They developed a new 40 hour Human Trafficking Course, a new State Accreditation Program, the review of their corrections curriculum; and Crews reported on the Leadership Summit in Tallahassee that is to take place next week with approximately 80 participants including nine from other countries. Gotschalk reported that Virginia developed new competency based training for jail, court, and process servers. Virginia recently modified their in service training to allow academies to do their own. Virginia is currently revising their academy accreditation process and is looking at an internal reorganization. FLETA representative Gary Mitchell reported that currently nine federal academies and 25 training programs are accredited. There are over 100 different federal agencies. North Carolina reported a new course for line officers called Leading from the Line. They are currently trying to construct a 30 million practical skills training center for all first responders. They have a new 80 hour CSI program that includes both basic and instructor levels. They have a Human Trafficking course that is available on the web. North Carolina also reported that they were awarded CALEA accreditation last March. South Carolina's Bill Floyd reported that the New POST Director is Hubert Harrell who has been on the job for about one month. They are working on new programs for Gangs and Active Shooters. They also have new Alzheimer's training for all first responders. Louisiana's Robert Vehock stated they have been in a state of transition lately. Their 27 year Executive Director resigned, two others recently resigned, and there is a governor's freeze in place.

Midwest: Mark Damitio (KS) was re-elected as the Regional Representative. Damitio reported that there were 12 members in attendance representing ten states. They reviewed the topics discussed at their regional meeting in March in Ada, Oklahoma. The current actions by the Executive Committee were reviewed with the members, and a roundtable discussion took place. They reviewed the candidates for elective offices. Damitio also asked for volunteers to host the Midwest's 2009 regional meeting and asked if any states were interested in hosting a conference in 2011, 2012, or 2013. Steve Culp (KS) is interesting in learning how other states are dealing with legislation related to racial profiling and related mandatory training.

West: Dick Clark (NV) reported that they had ten members in attendance. He reported that California is developing an e-learning program. Washington is building an \$18 million dorm facility. Idaho is working with the feds on a joint facility and Nevada a \$3 million EVOC training track. Their next regional meeting will be in Helena, Montana, this fall.

NEW BUSINESS

Elections: Elections were held July 9, 2008.

CALEA: Steve Otto stated that he attended a regional meeting with CALEA in Fairfax, VA. CALEA is undergoing a rewrite of their current accreditations standards for law enforcement academies. CALEA invites IADLEST to open a line of communication with them to best determine how the two entities can assist each other in this effort. Otto reported that currently only about 17 of the 700 or so academies in the nation are accredited by CALEA. Ray Beach reported that the Executive Committee did pass a motion to enter into this dialogue with CALEA. He felt a committee of association members would be the best way to accomplish this communication. Otto reported that some conclusion to the rewrite of the standards is expected by the spring of 2009. It was determined that this committee would consist of Tomi Doris (OH), Bill Floyd (SC), and Mike Parsons (WA),

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION by Culp (KS) to adjourn. SECOND by Clark (NV). MOTION CARRIED.

MULTIPLE MEDICATIONS AND VEHICLE CRASHES: ANALYSIS OF DATABASES

by: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

By 2030, over 70 million Americans will be over age 65. Older adults have a higher rate of fatality and injury in motor vehicle crashes per mile driven than any other age group except for teenagers. Since driving is a complex behavior, many age-related factors may impair driving ability, including age-related decrements in cognitive and physical functioning, increased prevalence of medical conditions or age-related medical conditions, and increased use of multiple medications. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration implemented a study to examine factors relating to crash-involvement among older adults to devise strategies to address these concerns.

This study examined the association of the impairing effects of multiple medication used, drug/drug interactions, and drug/disease interactions on motor vehicle increases in individuals age 50 and older. Fifty was selected as a cut-off age (a) to maximize sample size, and (b) because age-related changes and corresponding increased medication use begins to occur at this age (i.e., drugs to treat ailments like high blood pressure, osteoarthritis, hypercholesterolemia, and adult-onset diabetes), along with taking multiple medications.

Methodology: This study examined two databases: (1) the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS) database, and (2) the PharMetrics database. The NAMCS provided information on patients' demographic characteristics and medical services received, including information on diagnostic procedures, patient management, and planned future treatment. This database could not link, longitudinally, the medical and pharmaceutical data on a patient-specific basis. From 1998-2000, the NAMCS data included 71,468 physician/patient visits. The PharMetrics database is an anonymous, proprietary patient-level medical insurance claims database, which contains longitudinal medical and pharmaceutical data for thousands of individuals with motor vehicle crash diagnoses and the medications and diseases in a proximal time period to the crash. From January 1998 to March 2002, the PharMetrics patient-level database included 81,408 cases (patients with a diagnosis code for motor vehicle crashes) and 244,224 age-, sex-, and date-matched controls. With this database, hundreds of drugs and diseases, along with combinations of drugs and diseases, were examined using a case-control matched pair design or logistic regression analysis of possible associations of medication use among older adults and motor vehicle crashes.

Results: The results of the study showed an association between the kinds and number of medications taken by older adults and the risk of having MVCs. Drugs considered to impair the driving ability of older drivers were the most commonly used by older adults involved in MVCs. Over one-third of the NAMCS group over 50 years old mentioned the use of two or more drugs. Over half of the over-50 group mentioned using one or more potential driver impairing (PDI) medications. To qualify as a PDI medication, the medication has to be associated with known effects on the central nervous system, blood sugar levels, blood pressure, vision, or otherwise have the potential to interfere with driving skills. Possible PDI effects include sedation, hypoglycemic, blurred vision, hypotension, dizziness, fainting (syncope), and loss of coordination (ataxia).

The descriptive analysis of the proprietary database identified higher rates of drug use than the NAMCS results. Over half of the older adult study subjects received two or more medications. Almost 65 percent of the older adult study subjects received PDI medications. Over half of the older adult study subjects suffered from a PDI condition, and almost a quarter of the older adult study subjects concomitantly used medications that are known to interact. Almost a tenth of the older adult study subjects appeared to be using medicines that presented therapeutic conflicts with diseases/conditions for which they were being treated.

The Case Control Analysis suggested an association between motor vehicle crashes and many PDI medications, PDI diseases, and various combinations of drugs and diseases. Thirty-five of the ninety PDI drug classes had odds ratios over 1.2 ($p < .05$). Seven of the fifteen medication classes with the highest odds ratios are classes that have been reported to be especially problematic in older patients.

Seventy-nine of 200 driver impairing disease classes had statistically significant odds ratios over 1.4. The results supported previous studies linking Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs), Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme (ACE) inhibitors, Anticoagulants, Antidepressants, and Benzodiazepine use with motor vehicle crashes, corroborating previous studies linking depression, alcoholism, arthritis, history of falls, back pain, diabetes, heart disease, stroke, arrhythmias, coronary artery disease, and sleep apnea with MVCs. Most of the drug interaction pairings had higher odds ratios for MVCs than when the drugs were used alone. Some drug-disease conflicts have a statistically significant elevated odds ratio; however, these were such small numbers of cases and controls, making it difficult to conclude risk increases.

The number of total medications, PDI medications, PDI diseases, drug-drug interactions, and drug-disease conflicts were used in a regression analysis examining their role in MVCs. For patients with one or two PDI diseases, the risk

was 1.49 times greater than for older adults without any PDI disease. For those with three or more PDI conditions, the risk of MVCs increased to 2.20 times. Drug interactions were also associated with a statistically significant increase risk of MVCs (odds ratio of 1.47 for 1-2 drug interactions and 1.92 with patients with 3 or more drug interactions). The risk of MVCs among study subjects with a least one drug-disease conflict with 1.2 times that for older adults without any drug-disease conflicts.

Limitations: While older drivers are at increased risk of a crash when they take multiple PDI medications, this study cannot isolate the cause of these crashes and determine the relative contributions of the medications, medical condition, and age. This study also did not address the association of MVCs with de novo exposure (initiation of drug therapy when individuals are most likely to experience side effects) and prolonged exposure to prescribed medications (when individuals may become tolerant to side effects).

Furthermore, this analysis cannot predict whether an individual with an underlying medical condition who takes multiple PDI medications can drive safely. The limitations of the data, which include sample size and inherent weaknesses of administrative claims data, make it difficult to gauge the strength of the association between PDI medications and MVCs.

Discussion and conclusion: This study suggests that both the kind and number of medications exposure, and the characteristics of disease/disorders present among study subjects, are associated with an increase in risk for MVC among older adults. As the population continues to age, many factors will impact driving safety. Older adults may develop chronic diseases that may have driver impairing characteristics. Layered on to the underlying chronic diseases are the medications used to treat those conditions, along with their potential to exacerbate other coexisting conditions induce side effects, and promote dangerous drug interactions. By demonstrating the potential link between multiple drug therapies and MVCs, this study serves to highlight the need for a thorough examination of the relationships among drugs, diseases, and the older driver.

This study suggests the need for further research on the interplay of factors affecting the aging adult and driving ability. The results support the development of educational programs to increase awareness about the potential driver-impairing effects of increasingly complex medical and pharmaceutical therapies in older adult drivers.