

County of



Saratoga

Board of Supervisors

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PAUL J. SAUSVILLE
Chairman

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SARATOGA COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD MEETING

March 10, 2014 – 1:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Chairman Andrew Prestigiacomio; Saratoga Springs PD; Bob Murphy, STOP-DWI Coordinator; Richard Washburn, Sheriff's Office; Thomas Paton, NYSP-Saratoga; Cynthia Dort, Cornell Ext. of Saratoga; Katie DeMartino, D.A.'s Office; Thomas Parks, Charlton Police; Todd Ives, Ballston Spa PD; Les Klein, Richard Schoonmaker, Galway Police; Mickey Mahoney, Probation; Tim Williams, Waterford PD

Chairman Prestigiacomio called the meeting to order.

Mr. Murphy announced that the St. Patrick's Day DWI crackdown will be held March 14 – 17. The likelihood of people being out on Monday is small, but we have approval for the four days. He requested vouchers be sent to his office as soon as possible.

Mr. Murphy stated that Janine Stuchin is at Skidmore finalizing the Safe Spring event which will be held Thursday at 9:00 a.m. at Skidmore. If anyone wishes to stop in for that event, they would be more than happy. He said he has the agenda for this event if anyone would like to look at it. With the snow predicted for Wednesday into Thursday, there could potentially be no school or even a two hour delay. Over 300 students are signed up.

Mr. Murphy stated he will be attending the Public Safety Committee meeting tomorrow for a resolution approving the 2014 budget.

Mr. Murphy stated after St. Patrick's Day, agencies can have an additional 12 hours for the remainder of the month.

Chairman Prestigiacomio stated the Empire State Law Enforcement Traffic Safety conference (ESLETS) will be held April 8 & 9 at the Albany Marriot Hotel on Wolf Rd. Registration deadline is April 1st. The registration form is available on the New York State Police Website.

Chairman Prestigiacomio said in April, New York State will be joining the nationwide observation of Distracted Driving Month by participating in a distracted driving enforcement mobilization April 10 – 15. GTSC is asking that all police agencies across the State participate. Distracted driving (cell phone/electronic device 1225C and D) enforcement is an approved activity under the 2014 Police Traffic Services (PTS) grant agreement. You may charge officer overtime for distracted driving enforcement activities as your approved budget allows. In addition to the enforcement mobilization, this effort will include a national media campaign, and New York State will have its own public information campaign. Check our Law Enforcement page on <http://www.SafeNY.ny.gov/lawenf.htm> for links to information about this and other enforcement topics. GTSC hopes you plan to participate in this important initiative. If you have any questions, please contact your GTSC Program Representative.

Chairman Prestigiacomio stated due to an unforeseen delay in the implementation of the New York State Grants Gateway, 2015 GTSC grant applications will be made through our existing eGrants system. GTSC apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause you. You should expect the call letter announcing the 2015 grant opportunities that was sent out last week. If you have any questions, please contact your GTSC program representative, or e-mail your question to safenyny@dmv.ny.gov.

Chairman Prestigiacomio said every year, the GTSC supports and promotes Operation Safe Stop Day. Passing a stopped school bus is dangerous and puts our children at high risk when they get on or off the school bus. April 3rd is Operation Safe Stop Day, and GTSC would like to invite your agency to participate in this one-day enforcement effort. All your overtime hours dedicated to Operation Safe Stop enforcement is reimbursable under your 2014 Police Traffic Services Grant. Those agencies who participated in the enforcement effort will be asked to complete an activity report located on the GTSC website at www.Safenyny.gov. All OSS activity reports should be e-mailed to paul.overbaugh@dmv.ny.gov.

Chairman Prestigiacomio said the ARIDE training is being offered at several locations statewide April 10 and 11, April 30 and May 1, and May 13 and 14. Please check the SafeNY website for locations and registration deadlines. DRE training is also being offered. Phase 1 June 9 – June 20 (Albany County). Phase 2 will be mid-late August (Arizona). Application deadline is April 1st.

Ms. DeMartino stated they will have improved access to DMV records. Information will be available for tickets issued for the past 10 years. Now, they only see the original charges regardless of how they were disposed of. She stated their Investigators have the access, and they will provide the information to the ADA's. The courts will not have access to it nor the individual ADA's.

Mr. Ives said since the last meeting, they have had seven DWI's; five were females with high BAC's. They also had 23 cell phone tickets.

Mr. Paton said they had also had seven DWI's with high BAC's.

Mr. Williams reported they had a couple of DWI's, and they will be participating in Operation Safe Stop.

Mrs. Dort said since the last meeting, she has been appointed by the D.A. to be the Victim Ambassador for DWI victims, and she will be a liaison to the Victim Impact Panels. Her role is to help the victims and working with the panels in getting more speakers. She said she has received \$9,998 from the D.A. for a new display. There will be a new Broken Hearts display, and the County will issue them a check shortly. She said they will be doing the Shen families, and it will be totally dedicated to the four families. She stated they need another display for two families from Ballston Spa. She stated she is working with the Shen families for speaking at schools.

Mrs. Dort stated attendance for the Alive at 25 and Distracted Driving has been high. We hope to have new instructors from the Sheriff's Department. If any other agency has an officer they would like to send, that would be good. She said Joe Waldron and she will be running the classes.

Mrs. Dort said the Child Passenger Safety Conference will be June 24 – 26 at Penn State, and GTSC will pay for the hotel.

Mrs. Dort reported that GRACO had a major recall on the Nautilus car seats for their buckles, and all Infant Snug Rides will be recalled.

Mrs. Dort stated they plan to have a CPS Tech class at the Sheriff's Office shortly. It will be a closed class that will have a maximum of 10 people.

Mrs. Dort said they received a \$15,000 grant from State Farm, and they will be purchasing a texting simulator. They also received a \$1,000 grant from Allstate.

Mrs. Dort stated that they are working on a Distracted Driving class for all County employees who drive County vehicles. She said it is five points on their license if they are caught using an electronic device in a County vehicle.

Mrs. Dort mentioned she will be attending Safe Spring. She said her son passed the State Police exam with a 98%, and hopefully, he will be in the next class. He also passed the Sheriff's exam.

Chairman Prestigiacomio said for those who receive PTS grants, the progress report deadline is April 15th.

**** NEXT MEETING – MONDAY, APRIL 21ST AT 1:00 P.M. ****

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann