

County of



Saratoga

Board of Supervisors

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SARATOGA COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD MEETING

November 9, 2015 – 1:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Chairman Andrew Prestigiacomio, Saratoga Springs PD; Carl Zeilman, Emergency Services Director; Frank McGarity, NYS Park Police, Donald Fougere, NYSP; Brent Dupras, Sheriff's Office; Joseph Waldron, Mechanicville PD; Ray Cordani, Stillwater PD; Janine Stuchin, Prevention Council; Patrick Campion, D.A.'s Office; Mickey Mahoney, Probation; Cynthia Dort, Colleen Schemerhorn, Cornell Ext. of Saratoga, Rich Schoonmaker, Galway PD, Stephen Williams, The Daily Gazette

Chairman Prestigiacomio called the meeting to order.

Chairman Prestigiacomio said he wanted to dedicate this meeting to the memory of Bob Murphy who passed away a couple of weeks ago. He stated Carl Zeilman is the Director of the Saratoga County Office of Emergency Services, and he will temporarily be taking over the STOP-DWI program until things are figured out. Mr. Zeilman stated the County Administrator asked him to sit in on these meetings until a permanent solution is found. He said they are working on a press piece about STOP-DWI over the holidays. Chairman Prestigiacomio said Kelly Cook should have sent out the allotments for the Thanksgiving holiday crackdown.

Chairman Prestigiacomio discussed the following:

There is a webinar series available called Traffic Tuesdays, Checking out Checkpoints on November 10th at 3:00 p.m.

Description: Am I being detained or am I free to go? If you are a law enforcement officer who has recently worked a checkpoint or conducted a traffic stop, you have probably heard this question. More often than not, this question is asked in an attempt to challenge the legality of the checkpoint and the officer's authority to conduct a stop. People who believe that checkpoints are unconstitutional may purposefully come through a checkpoint to

disrupt the operation and distract the officer. They may refuse to cooperate by refusing to answer questions, produce requested documents, or even roll down their window. Due to some recent well-publicized videos purporting to show people how to avoid a checkpoint, these effective high visibility deterrence models now face practical challenges rather than legal ones. The question is often asked, "When can I break the window?" This webinar will look at the legal basis and then the practical application of the checkpoints. When a motorist tries to put up a placard and refuses to open his window or cooperate, officers will know what to do and prosecutors will know how to handle it too. The speaker is Joe McCormack, Chief of the Vehicular Crimes Unit with the Bronx District Attorney's Office and one of the Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutors for the State of New York. Register at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6568556500984222466>.

The SSPD made 23 DWI arrests since the last meeting on October 5th. SSPD had 5 DWI arrests Halloween weekend. SSPD conducted a DWI checkpoint on Wednesday, November 4th.

Turkey Trot 5K will be on November 26th (Thanksgiving) and Victorian Street Walk December 3rd. Broadway will be closed for a period of time for these events.

Mr. Campion stated they are busy with DWI cases coming in. Their annual DWI training held on October 29th was successful with almost 40 people in attendance.

Mr. Campion distributed a flier on the Saratoga County District Attorney's Office STOP DWI Breakfast to be held on November 12th at 8:00 a.m. at The Factory. This is to recognize and honor those individuals who worked toward combating the destructive consequences of driving while intoxicated and driving while impaired by drugs. This breakfast will recognize the efforts of law enforcement, speakers at the Victim Impact Panels and other professionals who support the STOP DWI efforts. They will also remember Bob Murphy who recently passed away. He said the date for the RSVP has passed, but if agencies have people who would like to attend, just let them know.

Mr. Waldron stated he had an opportunity to work with Bob Murphy for a long time as Traffic Safety Chair, and he will truly miss him. He was an outstanding individual. He said he lived up to everything we valued in law enforcement.

Mr. Waldron stated he teaches Alive at 25 and they had a kid come in the course. After finishing the course, they arrested him on the weekend for strangling his girlfriend, and then the next week he was arrested for DWI and then this weekend, he received another DWI. He said how fast in succession these arrests happened. He said he read an article on the heroin problem in Ballston Spa. He said they have had a lot of heroin issues. It is an epidemic when it comes to heroin overdoses. They just reached out to Christian Charities, and they brought in 10 more packets of Naloxone for them. He said a kid from

