

**Illinois Traffic Records Coordinating Committee Minutes
July 27, 2016**

TRCC Attendees	
Priscilla Tobias, Paul Lorton, Mehdi Nassirpour, Ken Martin, Rick Ingold, Jessica Keldermans, Mike Gillette, Andrew Gossrow (for Bill Morgan)	IDOT
Mary Riseling, Andy Simmons, Gary Dameron, John Clifford, Donna Cooper	SOS
Abraham Emmanuel	Chicago DOT
Dan Lee	Illinois Department of Public Health
James Hall	University of Illinois at Springfield (UIS)
Lyn Warren/Greg Piland	NHTSA/FHWA
Dan Leonard, and Ruth Kafensztok	EMSC - Loyola & Illinois Department of Public Health

Welcome/ Introduction

The meeting was called to order at 9:00AM by Mehdi Nassirpour. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to review and approve the minutes. Mehdi introduced Priscilla Tobias, as a new Governor's Highway Safety Representative and Director of Office of Program Development at IDOT and asked her to discuss the new organizational changes at IDOT.

Priscilla talked about the new changes and reported that the Secretary Blankenhorn wanted to have a better coordination of traffic safety programs and engineering at IDOT. She discussed the importance of the traffic safety related data in developing and updating Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). She also introduced Paul Lorton, as an Acting Bureau Chief of the new Bureau of Safety Programs and Engineering.

Brief Report from NHTSA and FHWA

Lyn Warren, Program Manager at NHTSA, Region V introduced herself and said she is the Regional Traffic Records Coordinator and has been assigned to work with the State of Illinois highway safety programs. Greg Piland, a FHWA representative reported that he had been working with CDOT staff on pedestrian and bicycle injuries and fatalities in the city of Chicago. The pedestrian and bicycle group in Chicago are very interested in acquiring pedestrian and bicycle related data including crash and health care and any other safety related data, such as CODES data.

Traffic Records Assessment

Mehdi provided an update on the Traffic Records Assessment. A copy of the Illinois Assessment Snapshot (Attachment 1) was distributed to the Committee for review and discussion. A complete copy of the final 2016 State of Illinois Traffic Records Assessment (230 pages) was also provided to the Committee via email. The assessment was completed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Technical Assessment Team. This assessment was completed via an electronic questionnaire with little guidance. According to the assessment, Illinois came in higher than the national average. He provided a list of recommendations:

Strategic planning

- Develop performance Measures for all traffic records and include them in strategic plan. Mehdi stressed again the importance of performance measures. They need to concentrate on Timeliness, Completeness, Accuracy, Consistency, Accessibility, and Data Integration. He encourages everyone to work on this ASAP and contact him with any questions.
- Input from the local data collectors and users to assure their needs included in the strategic plan particularly in the area of training and technology.

Crash

- Improve the crash and roadway data interface using smart mapping tool
- Develop and improve the crash/citation/adjudication interface. This requires developing a citation tracking system.

Driver

- Improve data quality management program and include performance measures
- Improve the driver documentation that includes edit checks and validations
- Link the driver and vehicle file to have a single centric dataset

Vehicle

- Improve interface with drive data system

Roadway

- Improve data quality program for Roadway data system

Citation

- Improve application Guidelines for Citations and Adjudication
- Improve the interfaces with Citations and Adjudication
- Improve Data Quality Control program for Citation and Adjudication
- Implement a citation tracking system

Injury Surveillance

- Develop performance measures for all ISS
- Include EMS in the process of identifying problems, plan, and evaluate traffic safety programs
- Reinstate data sharing agreement
- Encourage the regular sharing of ISS data with the TRCC

Data Use and Integration

- Build upon the best practice s learned from the CODES projects
- Develop a formal traffic records inventory
- Develop data governance procedures to allow access to integrated datasets

Some of the committee members raised questions on the new traffic records assessment process. Mary Riseling, from the Secretary of States (SOS) indicated that the new process did not adequately rate the three core vehicle, driver and citation data systems because the respondents didn't understand the questions and didn't provide complete and adequate responses. She preferred the old process of face-to-face interviews that respondents had chance to interact with the assessment team members

to have an in-depth discussion of the traffic records issues. Mehdi asked Mary and other members to send all their comments and concerns to him as soon as possible. He is planning to send all the comments and concerns to the traffic records team at NHTSA.

Reports on TRCC Committees

- **Executive Committee**--Mehdi discussed re-establishing and having an active executive committee to direct resources within their areas of responsibility, and set the vision and mission for the technical TRCC. The executive TRCC's portfolio also includes the review and approval of actions proposed by the technical committee. Having an active executive committee facilitates data sharing agreement among state agencies. Priscilla Tobias will be in charge of re-establishing this committee.
- **Technical Committee**—Mehdi provided an update on the importance of the committee and said that he was going to update the list of members since there were a few new members.
- **Sub-committee (Planning, Data Quality, and Engineering)**--The current three sub-committees consist of highly technical individuals who provide an in-depth analysis of traffic safety data-related issues.

Jessica Keldermans stated that she was going to send out a meeting notice in the near future. The main focus of the meeting will be to develop new TRCC strategic plan.

Ken Martin indicated that there were no activities during the last quarter. The main issue was the FHWA Process Review regarding conflicting language in the Illinois Vehicle Code impacting the accessibility of crash data. That has been resolved.

Priscilla gave an update on the Engineering sub-committee and reported that she was going to assign chairperson for this committee. She discussed the importance of heat maps that provide site-based data on fatalities and injuries across 102 counties. Chicago DOT uses the heat maps for their pedestrian and bicycle projects. Her staff are in a process of updating the heat maps and data trees using the recent crash data (2010-2014).

Brief Report on the Current 408/405 Grants:

Crash Outcome Data Evaluation System (CODES): Bureau Safety Programs and Engineering--We are still looking for people with technical skills to perform data linkages.

Illinois Traffic Records Coordinator Position: Bureau Safety Programs and Engineering--Since the budget is passed, we are planning to advertise and hire a qualified person with highly technical and management skills.

Data Analysis / Data Reporting of Statewide Databases: Loyola University

Dan Leonard from Loyola briefly reported on the recent project. In follow up to the linkage work between FARS and the Trauma Registry, EMSC evaluated hospital records for injured patients that do *not* appear in the Registry. (There are around 60 trauma centers in IL, including many large hospitals, and these facilities submit over 40,000 trauma registry records per year. However, there are more than 100 other hospitals, or

“non-trauma centers” [NTCs] in the state, and these facilities, although generally smaller, may also treat injured patients.) To analyze these NTC records, statewide billing data were used. The billing data does not include the clinical detail available in the Registry, but it is comprehensive, so it has records from all facilities. Basically the analysis showed that including NTC records in the Registry would increase the total number by about one-third, and the NTC records looked in many ways like Level II Trauma Center records. The analysis supports the efforts of IDPH staff in the *Division of EMS and Highway Safety* who have discussed expanding the Registry to be more inclusive.

Imaging Enhancement: Illinois Secretary of State: No major activities

EMS Data Access Expansion: Illinois Department of Public Health: No major activities were reported.

Data Warehouse: Illinois Secretary of State

Gary reported nothing new to report. Since the stopgap budget is passed and signed, they are planning to start this project as soon as possible.

Crash Reconstruction: Illinois State Police

There was no one from ISP to report on the crash reconstruction project. Priscilla Tobias mentioned that Bill Langheim was unable to attend the meeting. Priscilla reported that ISP has increased percentage of reconstructions by 25%.

Crash Data Integration and Web Reporting: Chicago Department of Transportation

Jessica Keldermans reported that Chicago PD has submitted 29,776 crash reports electronically (as of 7/25/16). They will be fully electronic by end of this year. Testing in mobile units has been going well. District 7 in Chicago is planning to report all crashes electronically.

She also mentioned that the Lack County judge ruled it illegal for the County to submit crash reported electronically unless all counties including municipalities do it that way.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM. The next meeting will be on November 2, 2016.