

**West Central Florida Community Traffic Safety Team  
Meeting Minutes of May 14, 2003**

After relocating to a new conference room, the meeting was called to order by Chair Steve Diez. Introductions were made around the room. The minutes of the April 9, 2003 meeting were approved as submitted.

**Old Business**

Problem Locations – Keith Crawford reported all the problem locations identified with signal timing problems have been checked. It was mentioned the signal at Wiscon and California is not working. The signal at Highway 19 and 98 will be fully operational when the work is complete. Currently this location has a flashing signal only.

David Carr sent a note indicating that the signs at the high school should be in by the end of the week. These signs state, “Use crosswalk”. Additional school zone signage will be installed later this month. Ralph Cotier noted when going west on Main Street, the sign by Eckerd Drugs stated “end of school zone”.

At the Highway 19 and Cypress location, the DOT records show the timing was changed on the clearance interval. Keith had a discussion on setting timing and said the DOT was very particular about clearance intervals. He said they would be checking those on all the state roadways. FDOT appreciates these locations being called to their attention.

Rucell asked when the signal would be activated at Wiscon and California. The answer given was in about one month.

We discussed the merging at Deltona and Forest Oaks. You are forced to merge left then right. It was thought the new markings have not improved the intersection. Steve said people are racing through the intersection. They may restripe the right lane for right turn only. It was also mentioned that a bus shelter would be put in on the west side of the intersection on Deltona.

We discussed variable message boards being placed on the right of way. Roadside vendors are attaching their signs onto street signs. Code enforcement is sometimes a slow process.

The white enforcement lights should be arriving in about three weeks. Joe Palminteri said they (Citrus Co SO) would appreciate being put on the list to receive the lights. Keith said the agencies would be getting part of what they asked for with this first shipment.

## **New Business**

Terry reported that the SALE kickoff event would be on May 22 at 4:30. It is for Sea, Air, and Land Enforcement. It will be held at the Pinellas County Airport and kickoff the Memorial Day enforcement wave.

Friday, June 20, is the Law Enforcement Challenge Award Luncheon. It is from 11:30 – 2:30 at the A La Carte Pavilion in Tampa just west of the airport. Let Terry know if you are going to represent our CTST. Also on the same day at the same location is the statewide DUI Wave for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July press conference. Plan to be there by 10:00 AM.

Invitations to all Law Enforcement agencies and civilians will be in the mail shortly.

May 19 - June 1 are the dates of the enforcement WAVE. Florida now has 75% seat belt use compliance. This is as a state with a secondary seat belt law. Our goal is now 80% compliance. If the primary seat belt law is passed, additional funding is available for the state.

Joe Palminteri of the SO provided information on the Citrus County traffic concept to reduce crashes by 10 %. The kickoff is Friday, May 23 in time for the Memorial Day Weekend. The message will be provided for citizens through billboards, checkpoints, and flyers. The SO is participating in the statewide WAVE.

Peter stated that the Primary Seat Belt Law, introduced by Schlossburg has deleted the section of the current law that states it is a “secondary law.” He also reported on a new bill introduced Monday as a safety act. It would provide additional fines for violators. The court would impose a surcharge of \$500. More information on this bill as it becomes available.

Sue reported on various Child Passenger Safety events. The World’s Greatest Baby Shower had over 450 people attending. CPS technicians from Childhood Development Services and Citrus SO helped with the car seat check held prior to the Baby Shower. None of the seats inspected were installed correctly. All had one or more error. A car seat check in Homosassa on May 3<sup>rd</sup> also had 100% misuse of safety seats. Technicians from CDS and United Way assisted.

There will be a Safety and Healthy Activities Fair at Crystal River Mall on Saturday, May 17, from 10:00- 4:00. Both Sue and Kris will participate, providing car seat and bike safety information.

The Citrus County Child Passenger Safety Program will receive a donation of \$3,000 in Sept. to help provide safety seats for needy families. Any ideas for continuing the program after Sept. 30, 2003 are welcome.

Peter asked for help from the counties to host the CTST information on their websites. If they could find the space, we could develop the posting information. This would be a good place to track our activities.

The joint project on Highway 200 and 41 was discussed. The County is working on beautification and the DOT is funding the safety aspects of the project.

Steve and Kris will teach the Road One course on May 23 and 24. Classes for law enforcement are available to any interested agency. The class is usually 1 or 1 ½ days long. Contact Steve Diez or Kris Reinhard for more information.

This was Chief Mike Schlaudraff's last meeting before retiring. The West Central Florida Community Traffic Safety Team members wish him well and thank him for his participation.

**Members Present:**

|                   |                                 |                  |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Ralph Cotier      | WCFL Driver Improvement         | 352-726-8862     |
| Keith Crawford    | FDOT Safety                     | 813-975-6255     |
| Chris Culbertson  | Inverness Police Department     | 352-726-2121     |
| Carlo Daleo       | Hernando Co Sheriff's Office    | 352-754-6850     |
| David DeCarlis    | Crystal River Police Department | 352-795-4241     |
| Steven Diez       | Hernando County Planning        | 352-754-4057x126 |
| Tracy DiMuro      | Hernando Co Sheriff's Office    | 352-754-6830     |
| George Drobina    | VFW 10209                       | 352-688-8244     |
| Terry Hensley     | D-7 Law Enforcement Liaison     | 727-367-9633     |
| Peter Hsu         | FDOT Safety                     | 813-975-6251     |
| Sue Littnan       | Citrus Health Department        | 352-726-1731x242 |
| Paulette Murrin   | Hernando Co Health Dept         | 352-754-4067x107 |
| Rucelle Nesmith   | Hernando Co Bus Transport.      | 352-797-7003     |
| Joe Palminteri    | Citrus Co Sheriff's Office      | 352-726-4488     |
| Charles Polisenio | Citrus Co Public Safety         | 352-527-5406     |
| Kristen Reinhard  | Citrus Co Environmental Health  | 352-527-5293     |
| Jeanette Rouse    | FDOT Safety                     | 813-975-6256     |
| Gordon Rowland    | Crystal River Police Dept       | 352-795-4241     |
| Mike Schlaudraff  | Citrus Co Fire Service          | 352-527-5412     |
| Donna Young       | Citrus Co School Board          | 352-726-1931     |
| Steve Dixon       | Citrus Co Engineering Division  | 352-527-5369     |
| Glenn Love        | Citrus Co Engineering Division  | 352-527-5369     |