Calling All (Police) Cars! Large Truck and Bus Enforcement
FACILITATOR:

Darrin Grondel

Director, Washington Traffic Safety Commission and Chair, AAMVA Law Enforcement Standing Committee
PRESENTERS:
Jack Van Steenburg
Chief Safety Officer, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation

Darrin Grondel
Director, Washington Traffic Safety Commission and Chair, AAMVA Law Enforcement Standing Committee

Peter Odom
Senior Attorney, National District Attorneys Association
Calling All (Police) Cars! Large Truck and Bus Enforcement
Calling All (Police) Cars!
Large Truck & Bus Enforcement

- Jack Van Steenburg, Chief Safety Officer, FMCSA
- Darrin Grondel, Director, Washington Traffic Safety Commission
- Peter Odom, Senior Attorney, National District Attorney’s Association
American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators
Annual Meeting
August 27, 2015

Large Truck and Bus Traffic Enforcement

Jack Van Steenburg
Assistant Administrator
And Chief Safety Officer
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
Our Mission

Placing safety as our highest priority:
Prevent crashes, injuries, and fatalities involving CMV transportation through education, innovation, regulation, enforcement, financial assistance, partnerships, and full accountability
The Problem – Exploring Facts

Large trucks and buses represent

• 4.5% of the registered vehicles in U.S.
• 10% of the vehicle miles traveled
• 11.8% of the crashes
• 12.1% of the traffic fatalities
Large Truck and Bus Crash Data

• In 2013, 3,806 crashes involving a large truck or bus claimed 4,251 lives lost

• 739 of those lives lost were large truck or bus occupants

• 3,512 of those lives lost were occupants of either a passenger vehicle, rider of a motorcycle or a bicycle or were a pedestrian
Large Truck and Bus Fatal Crash Data

7,818 total vehicles were involved in these crashes

- 4,186 - large trucks and buses
  - 114 - school buses
  - 43 - motorcoaches
- 3,376 - passenger vehicles
- 256 - other vehicles, mostly motorcycles
- 92 - bicyclists
- 437 - pedestrians
- 12 - persons on personal conveyances
Large Truck and Bus Crash Data

- At least **33%** of large truck occupants were not wearing a seatbelt
- In **24%** of truck crashes with at least one large truck occupant fatality, the truck’s speed was a factor related to the crash
- **64%** of fatal crashes involving a large truck occur in rural areas
- **28%** of fatal crashes in work zones involve a large truck
- About **49%** of large truck and bus fatal crashes occur in 10 States: Texas, California, Florida, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Ohio, New York, Illinois, North Carolina and Indiana
### Top 10 States for Large Truck and Bus Fatalities by State, 2011 - 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>449</td>
<td>594</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>532.7</td>
<td>-6.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>283.0</td>
<td>-5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>229.7</td>
<td>-1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>174.0</td>
<td>-0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>169.0</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>139.0</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>139.0</td>
<td>-13.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>138.7</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>134.0</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>127.3</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In 2013, these States accounted for 49% of all large truck and bus fatalities*

Key Safety Process Areas

- **R**: Companies register with FMCSA
- **I**: Inspect vehicles and drivers and record safety compliance data
  - Roadside Weigh Stations
  - Traffic Enforcement
- **C**: Investigators visit companies and record safety compliance data
  - Company Site Visits / Interventions
- **E**: Enforcement brings legal action against companies not in compliance
  - Legal Action
FY 2014 CMV Enforcement

• 14,918 Compliance Reviews
• 3.4+ million Roadside Inspections
• 4,589 Notice of Claims (enforcement)
• 879 Unsat/Unfit OOS orders
• 1,409 Failed to Pay Fine OOS orders
• 21 Imminent Hazard OOS orders
Large Truck and Bus Traffic Enforcement

Removal of Unsafe Drivers

Unsafe Driving Behaviors

**Serious Traffic Offenses**
- Speeding
- Reckless Driving
- Following too close
- Improper lane change
- Texting and cell phone use

**Major Traffic Offenses**
- DUI – Alcohol/Drugs
- Refusal to submit to alcohol test
- Felony use of a vehicle
- Driving on revoked/suspended license
- Leaving scene of crash

**Disqualifications (Serious)**
- 2nd conviction – 60 days
- 3rd conviction – 120 days

**Disqualifications (Major)**
- 1st conviction – 1 year
- 2nd conviction – lifetime
Crash Predictor Study

- Top 10 behaviors linked to future crash risk
- 2011 Release date
- Motor Carrier Management Information System
- Commercial Driver's License Information System
- 587,772 truck drivers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If a driver had:</th>
<th>Increase in Crash Likelihood</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Failure to Use/Improper Signal conviction</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Past Crash</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Improper Passing violation</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Improper Turn conviction</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Improper or Erratic Lane Change conviction</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Improper Lane / Location conviction</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Failure to Obey Traffic Sign conviction</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Speeding More Than 15 Miles over Speed Limit conviction</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any conviction</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Reckless / Careless / Inattentive / Negligent Driving conviction</td>
<td>64% 6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
AAMVA-FMCSA Partnerships

Protecting Public Safety by Taking Unsafe Drivers Off the Road

Medical Certifications

• Medical certifications are shared responsibility:
  – Drivers submit to SDLAs; SDLAs have 10 days to add to driver record.
  – SDLAs downgrade CDLs for drivers who fail to submit medical certs.

Two Grant Programs (CDL-PI and CMVOST)

• CDL-PI is provided directly to help states comply with CDL regulations.
• CMVOST provided for training programs, with priority given to programs for veterans and their families.

CDLIS Central Site

• AAMVA’s link to State licensing databases to provide accurate and timely data so that enforcement officers in field can take appropriate actions.
Driver Suspension

Drivers suspended for safety issues are 3 times more likely to crash than those suspended for social issues

- 18.9% of drivers suspended due to a safety issue crash (14,318 of 75,948)
- 6.9% drivers suspended due to a non-safety issue (i.e. child support, etc.) crash (2,669 of 38,678)
Driver Disqualification

• Imminent Hazard (IH) - up to 30 days without a hearing and up to 1 year

• Violating Out-of-Service (OOS) Order:
  • 180 days to 1 year for first violation (non-HM or passenger carrier)
  • 2-5 years for second violation within 10 years

• Failure to pay fine or medical violation
FMCSA’s Five Priorities for 2015

FMCSA’s leadership team has identified five high priority items for the upcoming year:

1. Compliance, Safety Accountability (CSA) Phase III
2. Electronic Logging Devices final rule
3. Inspection Modernization
4. A Safety Fitness Determination (SFD) rule
5. Unified Registration System
Our Vision

Save lives by striving toward a crash-free and fully accountable CMV transportation life-cycle
www.fmcsa.dot.gov

john.vansteenburg@dot.gov
Large Truck & Bus Traffic Enforcement Training

Improve Community Safety & Empower Your Officers

Darrin T Grondel
AAMVA AIC August 27, 2015
Background

- Each year more than 4,000 people lose their lives on U.S. highways in crashes involving large trucks and buses.
- Large trucks and buses represent approximately 4 percent of the registered vehicles, 9 percent of the vehicle miles traveled – but they are involved in 13 percent of all fatal crashes.
- When a driver speeds, makes improper lane changes, tailgates, drives and texts or otherwise becomes distracted, the result can turn deadly in an instant.
- Some officers are reluctant to enforce traffic violations for large trucks and buses. This reluctance may be linked to circumstances on the road that make it complicated to safely pullover an 80,000-pound commercial motor vehicle.
Curriculum

- Designed to provide the knowledge and skills appropriate to safely and effectively conduct CMV stops, the curriculum addresses:
  - how CMV traffic enforcement is vital to highway safety,
  - what to consider about where to conduct a stop,
  - what vehicle observations are relevant to highway safety and
  - what driver interactions to consider.
Curriculum

- Includes video segment intended to illustrate what CMV traffic enforcement best practices look like in real world situations.
- Offers various strategies and procedures to safely overcome officers’ objections to stopping large vehicles.
- Video training materials for the classroom, online, and roll call training.
Delivery

- At [www.fmcsa.dot.gov/trafficenforcement](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/trafficenforcement) you will find:
  - The curriculum
  - A promotional video
  - A one-page promotional handout
  - An instructor guide

- You can also:
  - Obtain contact information
  - Review the training schedule
  - Schedule training
FMCSA Contact Information

**Earl Hardy**, Senior Policy Advisor  
FMCSA Office of the Assistant Administrator and Chief Safety Officer

[Earl.Hardy@dot.gov](mailto:Earl.Hardy@dot.gov)  
Telephone: 202-366-3066

or

Darrin T. Grondel, Chair  
AAMVA Law Enforcement Standing Committee  
360-725-9899  
[dgrondel@wtsc.wa.gov](mailto:dgrondel@wtsc.wa.gov)
Saving Lives Through Better CDL Violation Enforcement

Peter Odom
Senior Attorney
National District Attorney’s Association
National Traffic Law Center
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(703) 519-1674
Truck Crash Deaths

Car 3-5K lbs. versus Truck 80K lbs.
Truck Crash Deaths

Truck 16 times larger than even a large car
Truck Crash Deaths

Kinetic Energy:
Car at 55 MPH =
Truck At 11 MPH
Truck Crash Deaths

Occupant Of Car
4 Times More Likely To Die
Fender Bender
Violations As Predictors

Speeding 15+ = 67%
Violations As Predictors

Improper Passing = 88%
Violations As Predictors

Failure to Signal = 96%
Wrong Direction

• Overall Motor Vehicle Fatalities Are Going Down
• Commercial Motor Vehicle Fatalities Are Going Up

Why?
CDL Holders in Court

• Disposition Rates by Violation Type*

Other Than Serious Violation
- Not Guilty: 18%
- Guilty: 82%

Serious Violations
- Not Guilty: 27%
- Guilty: 73%

Disqualifying Violations
- Other: 11%
- Not Guilty: 64%
- Guilty: 25%

* Data on CMV drivers from CVSA Self Assessment Study
Why Are We Here?

CDL Holders Are Safer Than The Average Driver
Why Are We Here?

When They Are Dangerous, It Is A Much Bigger Problem Than The Average Driver
Why Are We Here?

To Keep Dangerous Truckers Off The Roads
Truck driver charged in Montco fatal accident

• April 27, 2015: Lower Providence Township
• Fatal Truck Crash
• Oncoming Truck Driver Decapitated
• Charged: Homicide By Vehicle
Truck driver charged in Montco fatal accident

- Failed to Secure Trailer
- Speeding, Veered Out Of Lane
- Trailer Separated
- NY License Suspended
- Illegally Got PA License
Truck driver sought in six-fatality June crash on 1-75

The TBI is looking for a Kentucky truck driver who faces indictment in the deaths of six people in a June crash on Interstate 75.

Brewer's name was added to the bureau's 10 Most Wanted List on Thursday, according to the TBI.

Brewer, 39, of London, Ky., was indicated this week by a Hamilton County grand jury on six counts of vehicular homicide, four counts of reckless aggravated assault, one count of DUI by impairment of narcotics, one count of speeding and one count of false report of duty status.

He drove a tractor-trailer that hit about eight vehicles in a construction zone the afternoon of June 26 on I-75 near Chattanooga.
Truck driver sought in six-fatality June crash on I-75

- Tractor Trailer Hit 8 Vehicles
- 6 People Killed
- Meth In Blood
- 50 Consecutive Hours
- Federal Maximum 11 Hours

Brewer's name was added to the list of people wanted in connection with a crash involving multiple fatalities, according to the TBI.

Brewer, 39, of London, Ky., was indicted Thursday on six counts of vehicular homicide and one count of DUI by impairment of nagation of report of duty status.

He drove a tractor-trailer that hit about eight vehicles in a construction zone the afternoon of June 26 on I-75 near Chattanooga.
Brewer's name was added to the warrant after Tennessee Highway Patrol investigated the crash, according to the TBI.

Brewer, 39, of London, Ky., was initially arrested on six counts of vehicular homicide and one count of DUI by impairment of normal nervous or mental condition at the time of the crash in an effort to report of duty status.

He drove a tractor-trailer that hit about eight vehicles in a construction zone the afternoon of June 26 on I-75 near Chattanooga.
THE TEAM

- Road Enforcement
- Prosecutors
- Courts
Prosecutors

- It’s His Livelihood
- Look At That Beautiful Family
- It’s Just A Motor Vehicle Offense After All
- He’s Willing To Accept Responsibility
Any Resolution That Would Prevent The Violation From Appearing On The CDLIS Record
CDL Masking

State Must Not

• Mask
• Defer Imposition of Judgment
• Allow Diversion
Reporting Violations

Violations Must Be Reported To The State That Issued The CDL Within 10 Days
THE TEAM

• Pull Them Over
• Hold Them Accountable
• Report Them
• Publications
• On Location Training
• Technical Assistance
• Live from Alexandria
• NDAA.org
Calling All (Police) Cars! Large Truck and Bus Enforcement
Up Next:

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm
Iowa State Reception
Courtesy of Deloitte Consulting, LLP
Grand Ballroom Foyer

6:30 pm – 11:00 pm
Iowa State Banquet: Sock Hop
Courtesy of Industry Advisory Board
Shake, Rattle & Keep On Rollin’
Courtesy of MorphoTrust USA
Grand Ballroom A