

Illinois Traffic Records Coordinating Committee Minutes  
January 18, 2010

Attending: Mary Gott, Jacque Huddleston, James Hall, Peggy Westerfield, Dan Mueller, Jeff Darko, David Gruenenfelder, Peter Weitzel, Jim Garceau, Lou Humphrey, Mark Blankenship, Greg Piland, Joyce Schroeder, Sherri Akers, Mehdi Nassirpour, Kristie Edwards, Alex Cabral, Abraham Emmanuel, Mike Gillette, Eric Gaffney, Mary Heaton, Ruth Kafensztok, Dan Leonard, Evelyn Lyons, Mike Mayer, Xinrong Lei, Priscilla Tobias, Kim Kolody, Lori Midden

Lori Midden opened the meeting with introductions. The minutes were approved and there was no old business.

**NHTSA**—Alex Cabral will be presenting a Section 408 Workshop at the end of the TRCC meeting.

**FHWA**—Greg Piland announced the dates of the International Traffic Records Forum, July 31-August 3 in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Greg is part of a technical working group on the HS Improvement Program--major program within Federal Highways that look for ways to handle safety situations through engineering. His group is reviewing a GAO report which indicates a need to do more with data for HSIP with more emphasis on roadway inventory files. Illinois is ahead of other states because we have more of the elements already in place.

**Traffic Records Assessment**—Mehdi Nassirpour discussed the upcoming TR Assessment to be held on April 3-8 in Springfield. Pre-assessment questions will focus mainly on data quality. These questions will be e-mailed to members of this committee. We will need your responses as soon as possible

### **Updates**

#### **Safety Data Warehouse & Safety Analyst – Peggy Westerfield**

**Safety Data Mart** – in a maintenance mode, but always looking for feedback on ways we can improve. Usage stats were unavailable during the meeting.

**Safety Analyst** – Emphasis has been on getting the intersection, roadway and ramp data sources available; will use this same data as the inputs for recalculating SPFs; procurement with AASHTO to pay for a programming change has been delayed; did not reload the test areas as planned in November.

Priscilla reported that she had applied for 408 money to procure the licensing for safety analysts –getting bogged with attorneys. Rescinded application through TRCC and will seek other funding.

Mehdi recommended using the Safety Data Mart—wonderful tool.

### **CODES Update & Traffic Records Performance Measures—Mehdi Nassirpour**

Presently working on linking 2009 crash data to hospital discharge data—out patient data—very lengthy process. We presented at the NHTSA Region 5 meeting as well as the December Motorcycle Conference. We are looking for another part time employee to assist Xinrong Lei.

Performance Measures—final copy has not been released to all states. However, Mehdi has a draft copy of the recommended measures and will e-mail it to those who are applying for 408 funding. Please contact him for a copy.

### **MCR & CIS—Jim Garceau**

- Continuing to support the existing user community--30% electronic reporting using an adjusted calculation

### **CIS**

- Integration of CIS with SafetyNet is in production
- Upgrading the CIS application to use .Net Framework v4
- Starting a project to upgrade the work flow components of CIS from a fully custom solution to one using Microsoft's WorkFlow Foundation product. This will give the application more flexibility and lessen the amount of custom code to manage.
- Pilot testing the electronic transfer of data from 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendors
  - iyeTek has worked thru vendor testing and has 6 or 7 agencies testing. Three agencies are having their test scenarios reviewed by DTS as a final step to going live:
    - Roselle PD
    - Arlington Heights PD
    - Morton PD
  - Sungard and New World are still working with some of their agencies in test.

### **Crash Reports & Scanner Project Update—Jessica Keldermans**

The Stats Unit is 30 days behind the date of crash and is working on December 2010.

The Location Unit is 58 days behind the date of the crash and is working on October/November reports.

New scanner is up and running—2<sup>nd</sup> one is not running yet. Looking for options to use a different PC. Hopefully by the end of the week.

### **Trauma Registry Data and MEMSIS Project at IDPH—Dan Lee**

Project: Pre-hospital run report system enhancements, Phases I and II

Since the October TRCC meeting, the web-based data submission capability pilot testing in EMS Regions 1 (NW & N-Central Illinois) and 5 (S Illinois) have been successfully completed.

The web-based reporting option was launched statewide on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. As of today, approximately 20 EMS providers have begun submitting data using this option or are in the

process of converting to it, and a number of others have expressed interest in doing so in the near future. All of these providers were previously paper form submitters, so these conversions move the project towards its goal of reducing and eventually eliminating the volume of reports that the state receives on paper. Information about downloading, installing and using the new <http://www.emsdata-2.com/ILNEMSIS/webinfo.htm>

At this time, however, many reports continue to be submitted on paper, and the transition to the new NEMSIS-compliant form has been fully completed. An instruction manual for the new form can be accessed at: [http://www.idph.state.il.us/ems/Prehosp\\_FormManual.pdf](http://www.idph.state.il.us/ems/Prehosp_FormManual.pdf)

Electronic submitters using third-party software will have until April 29<sup>th</sup> of this year to meet NEMSIS and Illinois reporting specifications. These specifications are posted at the following site: <http://www.emsdata-2.com/ILNEMSIS/>

In summary, EMS providers licensed to do business in Illinois now have the option to submit NEMSIS-compliant pre-hospital run report data using a third-party software, the state-supported web-based system, or paper forms. The Department will begin uploading data to NEMSIS once a data sharing agreement has been executed, which is expected to occur this quarter.

#### **Citations Data Update—Sherri Akers**

ISP will begin pilot testing e-citations with DuPage County within six weeks. Our 408 grant was for 20 year thermal paper and for thermal printers. We are still in the process of getting through the ISP procurement and will order it as soon as the process is complete. Four other counties have been approved, but it will depend on how the testing process progresses in DuPage.

#### **ISP Crash Reconstruction—Jeff Darko**

We are currently working on the report for 2010 updating unknowns BAC and seatbelt numbers from our reconstruction reports. We have about a 30% increase in identifying whether a seatbelt was used based on the CDR software or the reconstruction investigation. We are ordering new cables for the 2011 model year cars for the crash data retrieval tool and we will be holding crash data retrieval update training in February and April for officers.

#### **Crash Data Quality Improvement & City of Chicago-IDOT Data Integration—Abraham Emmanuel**

**Data Quality Improvement Project:** We are continuing the 2010 crash data quality improvement efforts through the Chicago Police Training Academy. Currently we are distributing the training brochures and posters developed in 2010. By the end of January we should have the materials distributed and posted at all 25 police districts. After this we will shift

our focus to the next set of training materials. We have been focusing one of our 12 critical data quality issues each year. This year's focus will be on crash type. Of particular interest is the distinction between Turning Crashes and Angle Crashes.

**Data Integration /Web MCR Project:** We are continuing the software development efforts from 2010. The start of the 2011 activities are slightly delayed at Chicago Police due to administrative changes in the Information Services division. Eric Gaffney, Director of Information Services Division at the Chicago Police, who was also on the phone, told the committee that selection of a new vendor is currently in progress and CPD hopes to be on target with the software development this year.

Abraham reported on the difficulty of reporting angle crashes. Red light camera prioritization will help with this reporting. They are working on consistency of reporting.

### **TraCS 408 Project—Kristi Edwards**

John Jones is assisting with procurement—about 90-95% complete. BIP is being extremely helpful with the process. Still looking for server hosting. Two new full time staff will be attending an instructor development course. Marketing materials are being developed. Hope to start working with vendor in the next few weeks.

### **Subcommittee Reports**

**Planning**—Jessica is on leave and Lori is filling in—committee will not meet until Jessica returns.

**Human Factors/Data Quality**—has not met.

**Engineering Factors**—Priscilla reported:

American Association State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) is comprised of state department of transportation officials.

- AASHTO is in the process of identifying and recommending performance measures for fatalities and serious injuries in preparation for the expected requirements of reauthorization.
- AASHTO released the Highway Safety Manual (HSM) in summer of 2010. The scientific based methods of the HSM are being incorporated into the Safety Management Processes.
  - Illinois is a HSM Lead State with 12 other states and is working with Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) and the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP).
  - Updating Illinois' Safety Performance Functions (SPFs) for all state routes.

- Incorporate the Potential Safety Improvement (PSI) number into the multi-year process.
- Developing policy to incorporate safety into the planning process.
- Identify roadway data elements necessary.
- Proposed research project to develop a methodology and identify roadway data elements.

The meeting was then turned over to Alex for a workshop on “Completing the Section 408 Grant.”

Next meeting will be April 18, 2011.