

TIME Program Winter Updates



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TIME Program Manager

Happy New Year Everyone,

We hope you had a happy and safe holiday. We are in the middle of winter now. After the long cold snap at the end of December, then the pleasant early January warm-up, we are back to a good ol' Wisconsin winter. The cold is back, and the snow is flying all over the state.

Everyone is keenly aware of the extra problems you face as responders in cold and slippery conditions. It makes a dangerous job even more dangerous along with diminished visibility, increased stopping distances, distracted driving and inexperienced winter drivers. With the cold weather, everything breaks easier, things freeze up quicker and just doing your job in that kind of environment can be a challenge.

Just as a reminder, when you get to an incident, make sure you reach out to your other responders on scene and have a quick discussion on how to handle the incident. It only takes a couple of minutes to talk to other responders about who is going to do what and when. Sometimes the equipment that you need may be on another agency's apparatus or another responder's truck. All you have to do is ask. Don't forget to advise responding units of where to park their vehicles before their arrival, if possible. A responding vehicle can then act as a blocking vehicle. Or, if you direct them to stop before the hill, a curve or just upstream of the incident, they become an early warning device for motorists which can slow traffic down as they approach the incident.

Life safety is first and foremost at an incident scene, but your life and safety are equally as important. By taking that extra minute, you can make that incident scene the safest possible for everyone through good communication, proper placement of responder vehicles, the use of cones or flares and early warning signs. Always be aware of the activity occurring in and around your incident scene. Things can change in a heartbeat. Handle the incident, open the road as soon as you can and get out of harm's way – until the next call. You all deserve to go home at the end of the call or the end of your shift. Please be safe!

STOC Renamed Traffic Management Center

Effective January 2018, the State Traffic Operations Center has been renamed the **Traffic Management Center (TMC)**.



The name change was made to highlight the center's primary mission of traffic management, improving the safety and efficiency of the state highway system by reducing incidents and relieving traffic congestion. It also better reflects terminology used by counterpart facilities in other states. According to FHWA, TMCs are the hubs of most freeway management systems.

In a related change, the Division of State Patrol (DSP) has moved all of the Southeast Region's, a.k.a. Waukesha

Post, dispatch operations into the TMC. This move will enhance communications between TMC operators and DSP dispatchers. The DSP will also be assigning a Sergeant to the TMC to be more responsive to requests from law enforcement and other responders.

As responders that utilize the TMC, you will see no change in the operation of either the TMC or the DSP – SER. This merging of WisDOT assets into one facility will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of both the control room and DSP dispatch. It will also be beneficial to all users of the TMC and motorists as well. All numbers and email addresses to contact the TMC remain the same.

Inside this issue:

TRAFFIC INCIDENT RESPONSE WEEK	2
THANKS FOR THE ASSISTANCE	3
WRONG WAY DRIVING EVENTS	3
WI JOINING FIRSTNET	4
WISDOT'S GUIDELINES TRAINING ACCEPTED IN IL?	5
TIME PROGRAM IS LOOKING FOR INSTRUCTORS	6
WI KEEPS TRAINING ITS RESPONDERS	6
2018 REGIONAL TIME MEETING SCHEDULE	7
GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON HIGHWAY SAFETY	8

Protecting Those Who Protect Our Highways -National Traffic Incident Response Week- November 13-19, 2017

Governor Scott Walker proclaimed November 13-19, 2017 as Traffic Incident Response Week. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) joined other organizations in a nationwide effort to raise awareness about the important, dangerous job of crash response.

“Highway safety is everyone’s responsibility,” said WisDOT Secretary Dave Ross. “As crash scenes can often become just as dangerous as a crash itself, we ask that drivers take extra caution whenever they see flashing emergency lights. We want everyone on the road to make it home safely and remember to slow down and move over.”

For National Traffic Incident Response Week, WisDOT coordinated a number of activities in support of response week. First, WisDOT partnered with emergency responders from around the state to produce a special message on traffic incident safety that was included in the department’s social media starting **Monday, November 13**.



On **Tuesday, November 14**, WisDOT and the I-39/90 Expansion Project hosted a special event to honor first responders who handle incidents along the I-39/90 corridor, between Beloit and Madison. Those responders were invited to a recognition event and showcased some of the equipment used in incidents.

And on **Wednesday, November 15**, WisDOT staff rode along with state highway safety patrols to conduct a “tweet along.” This was done to help give the public a closer understanding of the day-to-day highway safety operations.

It was great to see the statewide support and appreciation of all responders during this week!



A Special 'Thanks' for the Assistance

The TIME program would like to acknowledge the outstanding assistance given by some of our responders in the state in creating a responder safety video for WisDOT. When WisDOT discussed the idea of creating a video with responders talking about the importance of safety along our highways, they asked the TIME program to identify some responders who would be willing to be filmed discussing the importance of safety in and around incident scenes. It did not take the program long to identify responders from all over the state that would fit the bill. The program contacted each responder, and without hesitation, each immediately agreed to participate. Not only did each participant move around their busy schedule to assist, but they also had to travel to the WisDOT studio in Madison to be filmed. Some of the participants even came in on their own time just to assist.

A big "thank you" from the TIME program to not only the responders, but to the agencies and businesses that supported their participation as well. The video produced was excellent. As of January 2018, the video had over 3,000 hits on YouTube and over 53,000 hits on Facebook. Please watch the video at <https://youtu.be/U47DReGXVOQ>.

Participants

Tow Operator Mark Bradfish

Rod's Towing and Service L.L.C.

Merrill and Wausau

Deputy Doug Lloyd

Marquette County Sheriff's Office

Sergeant Joe Lowe

Wisconsin State Patrol

Dustin Ridings

Firefighter - Oconto Fire Department

Captain - Green Bay Metro Fire Department

Advanced EMT Jennifer Smith

St. Croix EMS

Highway Crew Leader Jon Strandlie

Dane County Highway Department

Thanks again for helping get the word out to the motoring public in order to keep all responders safe!

Wrong Way Driving Events in Wisconsin



In December of 2017, WisDOT sent a TTY to all law enforcement agencies (LEAs) in the state requesting that all LEAs report all Wrong Way Driving (WWD) events to the Traffic Management Center (TMC) starting January 1, 2018. WisDOT requested any WWD event, either confirmed or not by LE, on any road in the state be reported to the TMC.

The purpose of reporting WWD events to the TMC is to assist WisDOT in quantifying the number of WWD events in Wisconsin. These "events" may or may not result in a traffic crash. WisDOT will use the data to determine if/how countermeasures should be installed in the future. The project is strictly a data collection action.



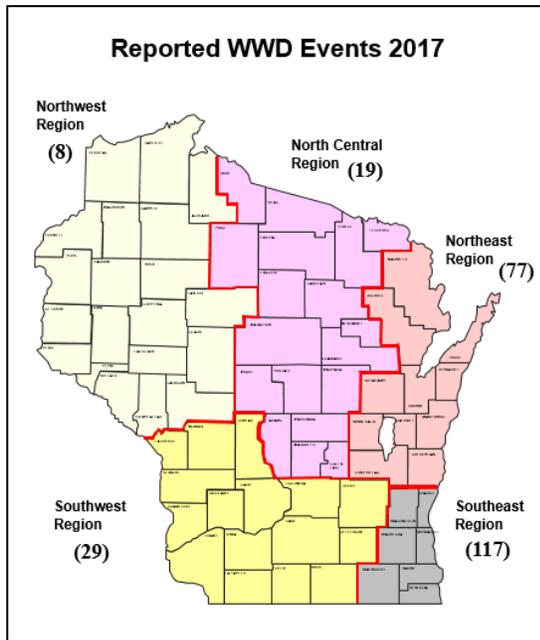
Since the request for reporting was made, some very interesting numbers have been received. As is reflected in the below maps, law enforcement is reporting a significant number of WWD events throughout the state. WisDOT will continue to evaluate the data as it is received.

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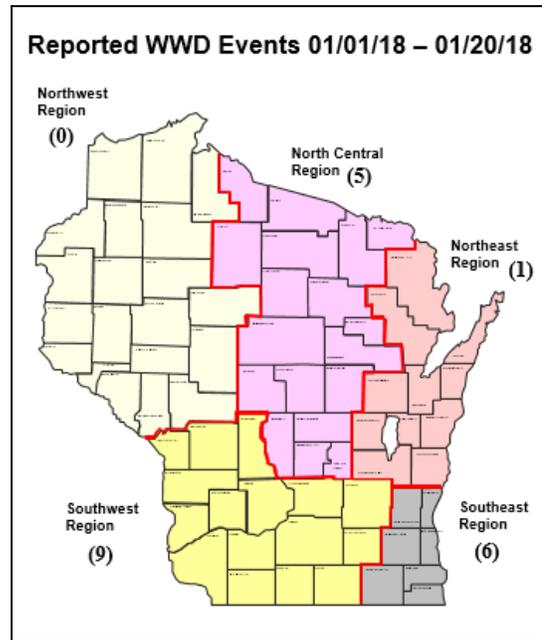
Wrong Way Driving Events in Wisconsin

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Please remember, if you have an active WWD event and have the opportunity to contact the TMC at the same time, the TMC may be able to assist your agency in locating and confirming the wrong way driver on a traffic camera. The TMC also has pre-established warning messages that they will activate on DMS message boards in order to warn other drivers of the possible wrong way driver.



Total WWD Events Reported — 250



Total WWD Events Reported — 21

Wisconsin is Joining FirstNet

By: Tom Czaja
Director



Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs Office of Emergency Communications

In December, Governor Scott Walker agreed for the State of Wisconsin to join the First Responder Network Authority or FirstNet. FirstNet is the nationwide public safety broadband network plan designed to improve communications.

AT&T is developing the national FirstNet plan to provide high-speed, secure, broadband network dedicated to public safety which will operate in a radio frequency spectrum specifically reserved for first responders. This means that when cellular systems are overloaded, first responders will still be able to communicate using a dedicated, digital device such as a cell phone or mobile computer.

Various public safety agencies will be able to communicate with each other providing interoperability for first responders. The FirstNet system will not replace the mobile and portable radios known as land mobile radios (LMR) used by first responders.

Before accepting FirstNet, the State of Wisconsin contacted each county and tribe to identify areas with poor or no coverage and critical infrastructure. This information was then provided to FirstNet. After a thorough review, the State of Wisconsin Interoperability Council — which consists of representatives from various first responder organizations — approved a recommendation to the Governor to support the FirstNet plan.

(continued on page 5)

Wisconsin is Joining FirstNet

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What does this mean for the State of Wisconsin? The vendor for FirstNet is required to build out a system providing coverage to most areas in Wisconsin. Not only will public safety professionals benefit but consumers will also benefit since cellular sites will be installed in areas of the state where coverage was either poor or non-existent. This will provide reliable coverage statewide for both citizens and first responders.

The Wisconsin FirstNet initiative is overseen by the newly created Office of Emergency Communications which is within the Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs. A kickoff meeting will be held in January.

More information can be found on the Wisconsin Public Safety Broadband Project website at <https://wipsb.wisconsin.gov/> or by contacting Tom Czaja, Director of the Office of Emergency Communications, at 608-888-5500 or Thomas.Czaja@Wisconsin.Gov.

WisDOT's Emergency Traffic Control and Scene Management Guidelines Training Accepted in the State of Illinois?



Over the past two years, the TIME program has received a number of inquiries from the Towing and Recovery (T&R) community in regard to whether the State of Illinois accepts WisDOT's Emergency Traffic Control and Scene Management Guidelines (Guidelines) training as an equivalent to Illinois' SHRP2 training. In 2016 the State of Illinois enacted SB-1441 (625 ILCS 5/4 – 203.5). The specific section for Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) approval is 625 ILCS 5/4-203.5 (b)(7). This required all T&R companies that tow vehicles under the direction of law enforcement, a.k.a. "police tow", on any highway in the State of Illinois to attend and successfully pass a, "Traffic Incident Management Training Program Approved by the Department of Transportation" by December 31, 2016.

Once the T&R professional successfully completes the IDOT approved TIM class, the state issues the operator a card that states that the operator successfully completed the training. The card must be in the operator's possession whenever they are performing towing and recovery operations. The tower must produce the card to a law enforcement officer when requested. The card used to be valid for only two years from the date of issuance. IDOT has since removed the two-year provision.

The TIME program recently contacted FHWA and inquired if Wisconsin's SHRP2 "Equivalent" program could be accepted in Illinois. FHWA's SHRP2 Program Manager James Austrich stated yes, it should be recognized as a SHRP2 equivalent program in Illinois. There are approximately nine other states in the country that have SHRP2 "equivalent" TIM programs. All of our program's content is the same as FHWA's SHRP2 training program, our program is just a little more Wisconsin centric.

The TIME program then contacted the Illinois State Police (ISP) TIM program state point of contact. The program asked if they would recognize Wisconsin's Guidelines training to satisfy their state's TIM training requirement in order to conduct "police tows." The ISP representative stated their law is very specific when it comes to their TIM training. Their law states the training program has to be a, "Traffic Incident Management Training Program Approved by the Department of Transportation". Not just a FHWA approved program. The ISP representative stated he was going to bring our request for recognition to the IDOT board that oversees their TIM training requirement for T&R professionals. The TIME program also stated that if Wisconsin is making this request of IDOT, there may be other states that border Illinois that may do the same. The IDOT representative stated that he will attempt to secure official recognition by IDOT of FHWA approved SHRP2 equivalent programs.

We are optimistic that this recognition will occur. It sounds like it may require a change in Illinois state law. Another small sticking point would be that the program may have to provide Illinois with a list of T&R professionals who attended a Guidelines training in order to be issued a State of Illinois TIM training card. We could very easily develop a process to ensure that type of documentation occurs. Please stand by. As soon as we hear from our friends down south, we will report their decision.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation's Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) Program is Looking for Instructors



Do you believe the proper application of TIM principles at an incident scene make all responders safer? Do you believe that TIM principles result in the quicker clearance of an incident? Do you want to teach your fellow responders these valuable tools? Then the TIME program needs you. The TIME program is looking to expand its cadre of instructors across the state.

The requirements for becoming and remaining a TIME Program Instructor are: 1.] You must attend the 12-hour FHWA "Train-the-Trainer" instructor program, 2.] You must teach at least one four-hour responder class per year (in order to remain fresh with the material) and 3.] You must participate in an annual two-hour instructor update (this will generally be an on-line review of any changes in the material or program).

All of the instructors are 100 percent volunteer. We do not have any funds available to compensate instructors for their time or travel. That is why we value their dedication, because they are volunteering their time for one reason — teaching other responders. We always try and have two instructors from different disciplines at each four-hour class. With the primary instructor being from the discipline of the requesting organization. That's why we need a large pool of instructors from all corners of our state.

There is no cost to attend the training. The TIME program will pay for food and lodging at the WI State Patrol Academy and provide you with all of the teaching materials. All you have to do is participate.

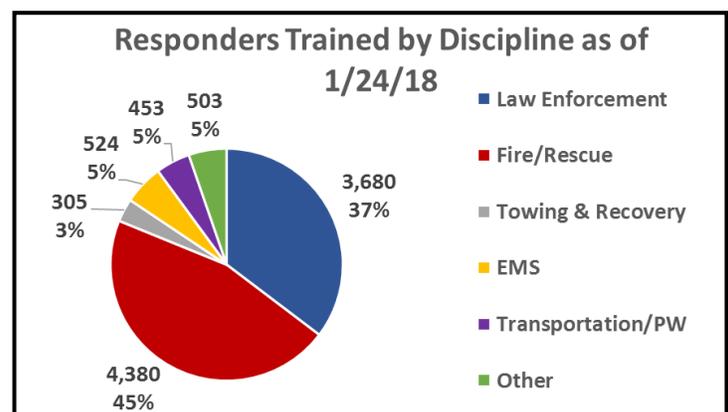
The class will be held **June 26-27, 2018, at the WI State Patrol Academy near Tomah**. More information and an application will be sent out in the spring. If you are interested in getting placed on the on-call list, please just send us an email at timeprogram@dot.wi.gov expressing your interest and we will make sure you are sent an application once they become available.

Wisconsin Keeps Training Its Responders

The TIME program continues to press forward with TIM training across the state. As of January 24, 2018, we have **9,845** responders trained in TIM. That is 36.4 percent of the identified responders in the state. For 2018, FHWA set a nationwide goal of having 30 percent of identified responders in a state be TIM trained by 5/31/18. The TIME program achieved that goal last year and set an internal goal of training 40 percent of the state's responders by the end of May. We are well on our way.

2018 has started out extremely strong with over 27 TIM classes already scheduled through April and another 10+ just needing to lock in a date and time. This is outstanding. You are keeping our instructors busy! I recently sent out a request for instructors to the Northwest Region. We have 11 trainings scheduled in that region alone. Requests are coming in from all regions of the state. We also have five counties that are requesting training for all of their highway department staff; Columbia, Douglas, Iowa, LaCrosse and Monroe. That makes 15 county highway departments in the state that have either had their staff trained in TIM or are scheduled to do so. In addition, we are starting to have a number of larger, full-time fire departments request TIM training. We are training all staff from Superior Fire Department in January, Waukesha Fire Department in March and are looking to lock in dates for Eau Claire Fire Department.

The program would like to thank all of the departments that have requested a TIM class for their staff. Not only this year but since the program's inception. It is all about improving communication between the responder disciplines before, during and after an incident. That results in improved safety for ALL responders. Please keep requesting training. We will never turn you down!



2018 Regional TIME Meeting Schedule

For 2018, we reduced the overall number of regional TIME meetings from 27 in 2017 to 20 this year. We can, however, add a meeting in a specific area if requested. Please just let the program know, and we will coordinate with the region to schedule the meeting. TIME meetings afford you the opportunity to learn more about the TIME program, the TIME Coalition, TIM training opportunities, construction in your area, after action reviews of significant incidents and training relevant to traffic incident management. We hope to see you at a meeting!

March 7, 2018 Southwest Region <i>La Crosse</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM WisDOT SW Region Office Conference Rooms B19 & B20 3550 Mormon Coulee Road, La Crosse, WI 54601
March 13, 2018 Northeast Region <i>Southern I-41/WIS 441</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Winnebago County Sheriff's Office 4311 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901
March 22, 2018 Northeast Region <i>Northern US 41/US 141/WIS 172</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Brown County Sheriff's Office 2684 Development Drive, Green Bay, WI 54311
April 10, 2018 Southwest Region <i>DeForest</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM WI State Patrol – DeForest Post 911 W. North Street, DeForest, WI 53532
April 12, 2018 Southeast Region <i>Milwaukee</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Traffic Management Center (TMC) 433 W. St. Paul Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53203
April 17, 2018 Northwest Region <i>Superior</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Superior WisDOT Office 1701 N. 4 th Street, Superior, WI 54880
April 17, 2018 Northwest Region <i>Spooner</i>	5:30 PM – 8:30 PM DNR Service Center 810 W. Maple Street, Spooner WI 54801
April 18, 2018 Northwest Region <i>Eau Claire</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office Jail Conference Room 710 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54307
April 19, 2018 North Central Region <i>Stevens Point</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Stevens Point Police Department 933 Michigan Avenue, Stevens Point, WI 54481
April 25, 2018 Southwest Region <i>Janesville</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Art Stearns's Fire Training Center 3000 N. County Road F, Janesville, WI 53545
September 13, 2018 Southeast Region <i>Milwaukee</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Traffic Management Center (TMC) 433 W. St. Paul Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53203
September 19, 2018 Northwest Region <i>Superior</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Superior WisDOT Office 1701 N. 4 th Street, Superior, WI 54880
September 20, 2018 Northwest Region <i>Eau Claire</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office Jail Conference Room 710 Second Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54307

(continued on page 8)

2018 Regional TIME Meeting Schedule

(continued from page 7)

October 2, 2018 Northeast Region <i>Northern US 41/US 141/WIS 172</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Brown County Sheriff's Office 2684 Development Drive, Green Bay, WI 54311
October 4, 2018 North Central Region <i>Wausau</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Northcentral Technical College Center for Business & Industry 1000 W. Campus Drive, Wausau, WI 54401
October 10, 2018 Southwest Region <i>La Crosse</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM State Patrol Safety and Weight Enforcement Facility 5751 Interstate 90, Sparta, WI 54656
October 18, 2018 Northeast Region <i>I-43 & Lakeshore Counties</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Sheboygan County Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement Center 525 North 6 th Street, Sheboygan, WI 53081
October 24, 2018 Southwest Region <i>Madison</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM WisDOT SW Region Madison Office Rock/Dane Rooms 2101 Wright Street, Madison, WI 53704
November 7, 2018 Southwest Region <i>Lake Delton</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Lake Delton Fire and EMS Facility 45 Miller Drive, Lake Delton, WI 53913
December 5, 2018 Southeast Region <i>Milwaukee</i>	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Traffic Management Center (TMC) 433 W. St. Paul Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53203

SAVE THE DATE!

44th Annual Governor's Conference on Highway Safety

August 21-23, 2018

Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva

