

County of Saratoga

Board of Supervisors

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SARATOGA COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD MEETING

February 8, 2016 – 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Andrew Prestigiacomio, Saratoga Springs PD; Wes Carr, STOP-DWI Coordinator; Ray Cordani, Stillwater PD; Frank McGarity, NYS Park Police; Mickey Mahoney, Probation; Janine Stuchin, Prevention Council; Patrick Campion, Scott Perkins, D.A.'s Office; Cynthia Dort, Cornell; Tim Williams, Waterford PD; Thomas Parks, Charlton Police; Joseph Waldron, Mechanicville PD; Dave Goodwin, Galway Police;

Chairman Prestigiacomio called the meeting to order.

Mr. Carr stated the revenue has been received from the State for the Labor Day Crackdown. For the Super Bowl Crackdown, he has received two claims, and he requested these be sent to him as soon as possible. He announced that the next STOP-DWI Crackdown will be for St. Patrick's Day, March 17 – March 20. He said he will be distributing the dollar amounts out to the agencies this week. He said he is also reaching out to the schools for their after prom parties. He stated his year-end report is due March 31st, and this will be his first one.

Chairman Prestigiacomio mentioned that the SSPD made 21 DWI arrests since the last meeting on January 11th. He stated that four DWI arrests were made during the Super Bowl Crackdown period (February 5 – 8).

Chairman Prestigiacomio stated that Chowder Fest was held in Saratoga Springs this past weekend, and it has taken on a different life. It used to be a family event. He stated it is one part family and two parts drunk fest. He said they did away with the October Block Party because of that. He said fights were an issue. He said they will be looking to modify this event.

Mr. Campion stated they are seeing many DWI's. He said in every accident involving a fatality, DMV conducts an administrative hearing to determine if a motorist's license should be revoked. If they have a pending criminal case attached to that accident, DMV will hold the fatality hearing in advance until the criminal case is resolved. He said if any police officer receives a notice to appear at a DMV fatality hearing, just let his office know because he said he can see some cases falling through the cracks or some cases they are not aware of. Mr. Waldron said in general, he will tell his officers no DMV hearings period. He said at the end of the day, they will receive the suspension through the court system. Mr. Campion said for misdemeanors, we don't see any reason not to go.

Mr. Waldron stated they had one DWI during the last crackdown but nothing last night for Super Bowl. Other than bar fights, it was quiet.

Mr. Williams said they had a couple of DWI's during the month but none during the crackdown.

Mr. Parks said for that sovereignty issue he discussed at a previous meeting, the gentleman pled guilty and that was resolved.

Mr. Waldron stated they had a gentleman from up north who photocopied a license plate from another vehicle and put it on his vehicle and claimed he was a sovereign citizen.

Mr. Cordani said they did not have any DWI's, but they had a felony DWI prior to the crackdown. They had two dedicated patrols with five arrests.

Mr. Cordani asked if anyone could steer him in the right direction for LPRs? Theirs is starting to act up on him, and he checked on prices which were quite high. He wondered if there were any grants for this. Mr. Waldron said you can get value on the ones you have if you trade them back in. Mr. Cordani said he reached out to LSag, and they want close to \$16,000, and they will give him \$1,500 for the one he has. Mr. Waldron said everyone is moving away from LSag, and they will be moving away from it also. Chairman Prestigiacommo said he has all of Pat Fox's programming now. The system is phenomenal. He said the Genotect program and equipment are outstanding. He said with that, you receive a shared server and are in with anyone else who is in Pat Fox's group. He stated DCJS was very generous for a while, but he has not heard of any grants in a while. Mr. Waldron stated they just received a \$10,000 grant for guns, and that took an act of Congress to receive. Chairman Prestigiacommo stated that LSag has gone downhill with service and some of their products.

Mr. Mahoney said they have steady business and are seeing high BAC's on the ignition interlock. Mr. Waldron said they are pulling over a lot of people with those, so the message is getting out there. He stated a lot of people who have these are getting pulled over. Mr.

Mahoney said it costs around \$200 to have it installed, and people are waiving the installation fee.

Ms. Stuchin said that she wanted to share some resources with the Board, as people have been calling them to ask how they can help a family member. She distributed copies of information on Free One Hour Training in Heroin/Opioid Overdose Prevention; Is there Drug Addiction in your life?; and Real Talk: Heroin. She said these are on their website and she can send them out electronically. She stated there are a lot of support groups out there for parents struggling with their adult child's addiction. She said NARCAN is being used heavily around this County. She mentioned maybe 11 times per month EMS is responding with NARCAN, and this sounds high to her. Mr. Waldron said that they use it quite often. He said he sent 15 officers for training. They came back, and they each used it, and they ran out. The people they have saved are now walking around with one. Ms. Stuchin said this brings them back to life, but it doesn't cure the addiction. Beyond that, they need addiction treatment. She said you can only help the people who are willing.

Ms. Stuchin stated every year, they work with SADD groups to do education with young people in the County. She said the SADD Leadership Conference will be held Thursday, March 17th from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Skidmore Campus. She said everyone is invited, and she distributed fliers regarding this conference. She mentioned there will be group workshops this year. She said about 20 young people per school district will attend, and our goal is to train them to take the message back to their districts. She said there will probably be 280 kids from around the County attending this conference.

Ms. Stuchin said CAPTAIN has a group called Capteen, and they have a program called Real Talk: Heroin. She said everyone is invited to this event on February 24th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library. She said they are working with them to help them get some speakers. She said the Prevention Council will have an information table there. She said the Capteens are the youth outreach program from CAPTAIN, and they are publicizing among the Shenendehowa High School students to have those kids hear the message.

Mr. McGarity stated Phish will be coming to SPAC July 1 - 3.

Mr. McGarity thanked Chairman Prestigiacomo for teaching Commercial Vehicle Enforcement at their academy

Mr. McGarity stated there will be no more free parking at SPAC anymore. Live Nation will be charging \$10 per car for the east and west Rte. 50 lots. He said this is only for the Live Nation concerts. He said their relationship with Live Nation is cordial, but they are private, and they charge for everything.

Mr. McGarity said they had 3 DWI's since the last meeting; 7 AUO's and 2 ignition interlock devices.

Mr. McGarity distributed copies of the list of SPAC concerts for 2016.

Mrs. Dort stated going forward, GTSC's CPS grant will be cut by 95% in for 2017, and there will no more giveaway car seats. The low income program will receive 5% of what they have received in the past. She said the fitting stations will still check car seats, but a person will no longer receive one if theirs is not right. She said she may receive \$1,000 to \$2,000 for car seats as opposed to \$17,000 she received this year. Mr. Waldron asked who do we call to try to reverse that, and Mrs. Dort said NITSA. She stated on the Highway Safety grants, there are no more bike helmets, so there will be no more helmet distribution programs. She said NITSA said you can give anything reflective, i.e., a safety vest, and she can purchase all of the lawn signs she wants. She said she has never seen a cut like this before. She stated they were told that if someone receives a ticket for a headlight out, they would not receive a new headlight. It would be their own responsibility to get another one. The other issue is that children's lives have been saved, so the number of children dying and being injured have decreased. She said now, they have to start doing stats on children's lives that are lost or injured. She stated that Saratoga County is probably good for another year with fitting stations that have car seats. She said she does not know what they are going to do. She said they will ask a few businesses if they would like to partner. Ms. Stuchin said the Hawley Foundation does a lot for low income kids, and they are Saratoga based. She said they give money to under privileged kids for camps, etc. She said kids' helmets and car seats seem like a poster child; it is a good thing.

Mrs. Dort said Joe Waldron, Ryan Mahem from the Sheriff's Office and she are officially Defensive Driving Instructors. They took the 320 minute class. She said they will be offering this point reduction class in Saratoga County. She stated the Magistrates seem like they are on board to encourage this class as opposed to an on line class.

Mrs. Dort stated there will be a car seat class for technicians on March 1 - 3 at the Clifton Park EMS. The Car Seat Conference will be held in Lake Placid on May 10 - 12. She requested that names of attendees be given to her so that she can pay for their registration fee and GTSC will pay for their hotel.

Mrs. Dort said she met with the Saratoga Springs High School SADD Club. She said they are looking at doing their program with them early April before the school vacation or the beginning of May. This is their three-day program with the panels. She said they have not been in Saratoga Springs for a while.

Mrs. Dort said she received \$15,000 from State Farm for the Teen Driver Program.

Mrs. Dort said they did stats for the last Victim Impact Panel in January. She mentioned 50 of 79 had been arrested before for DWI; for 12, it was their second visit; for 2, it was their third visit. BAC's were .10 to 1.5. For the question *at what age did you begin drinking* – the answers were 17 – 20 years of age and then 14 to 16 years of age. For drugs, the highest age was 14 – 16 years of age. She said we still have work to do. It is not stopping or getting better.

Mr. Perkins advised Mrs. Dort that AAA Northway has Traffic Safety Foundation programs, so there is money there. He said he sits on their board. They have asked him for other opportunities where they can give. Mrs. Dort stated they are on her car seat grant. She said she gives the money to them. She said she has AAA Northway from Plattsburgh to Schenectady on her grant. She said she will give them a call.

**** NEXT MEETING – MONDAY, MARCH 7TH AT 1:00 P.M. ****

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Sodemann