

## Meeting Notes

- 10:00 AM Welcome Introductions
- Roll call **Larry Krantz**
  - TxDOT Update **Letty von Rossum**
    - TxDOT has had many discussions with NHTSA and will provide updates on those discussions soon.
      - One update is that the Highway Safety Plan (HSP) will transition to a triennial plan (previously an annual plan).
    - FY24 project list will be sent to the Transportation Commission for funding approval. The final project list will be incorporated into the HSP.
    - Thank you in advance for the work on the 2023 Texas Impaired Driving Plan.
- 10:15 AM New Business
- Member Events **Christine Adams**
    - Please let us know of any conferences or events. This helps TTI Administrators plan quarterly meetings and the annual Forum to maximize attendance.
  - NTSB Request **Larry Krantz**
    - Thank you to everyone for helping complete the NTSB request. The responses were well received. Job well done!
- 10:20 AM Quarterly Updates
- Impaired Driving Enforcement Training and Detection **Carlos Champion**
    - A. Texas SFST, FRIDAY, & DITEP (FY23)
      - Total Classes by Location: classes selected high DWI KA locations
        - SFST 24HR: 13
        - SFST Inst: 1
        - Refresher: 84
        - Adv DWI: 20
        - FRIDAY: 10
        - DITEP 16HR: 11
        - DITEP 8HR: 13
      - Total Trainees by County:
        - SFST 24HR: 125
        - SFST Inst: 21
        - Refresher: 726
        - Adv DWI: 166
        - FRIDAY: 44
        - DITEP 16HR: 199
        - DITEP 8HR: 179

- SFST Refresher Schools: Williamson County (March 2023), Amarillo (May 2023), and Waxahachie (June/July 2023)
- Requests for DITEP trainings has significantly increased over the past year. This was a NHTSA Assessment recommendation.
- Also receiving a lot of requests for 24HR SFST classes. SFST certified officers are needing more than just a refresher course.
- Working on condensing the SFST practitioner handbook.
- B. Texas DRE and ARIDE
  - Currently, 359 DREs, 113 Agencies, 48 Instructors
    - In Oct 2021, there were only 297 DREs and less than 100 DRE agencies
  - Total Trainees by Class Location/County (FY23)
    - ARIDE: 519
    - DRE: 67
    - DRE In-Service: 70
    - Regional Conference: 21
  - DRE schools: San Antonio (October 2023), Pasadena (April 2024), Plano (May 2024)
  - NHTSA released the 2023 curriculum update.
    - Scaled down to about 400 pages (from 1200).
  - Created a two page face sheet to make it more user friendly. Positive feedback has been received by officers.
  - Blake Rhone-Subinsky was killed by a drugged driver in 2021
    - His mom, Jackie Rhone set up the Be A Blake Foundation, which offers scholarships for officers to attend DRE school.
    - Donations accepted: <https://www.beablakefoundation.com/>
- Forensic Testing **Larry Krantz on behalf of Trevis Beckworth**
  - The goal is to complete 95% blood alcohol cases within 30 days. As of Jan 2023, DPS Crime Lab is completing over 98% of cases within 30 days.
  - Since Oct 2022, there have been 439 Breath Test Operators trained.
  - There is still a huge backlog of drug toxicology cases. As of March 2023, there are 9617 cases pending.
    - To help reduce this backlog, the DPS Crime Lab has started the Aged-Case Customer Outreach Project.
      - Since Jan 2023, 70 counties have been contacted to inquire if drug toxicology analysis is still needed on oldest cases.
      - 432 cases have been closed so far.
    - DPS Crime Lab has also requested additional funding from the legislature to increase the capacity of the drug toxicology lab.

- Prosecution/Legislative **Clay Abbott**
  - One of the greatest issues for prosecutors right now is hiring a workforce. There are less law school graduates. There are also increased work options for law graduates, so fewer graduates are signing with prosecutor's offices. Also, losing a lot of prosecutors to the judiciary.
  - Good news: prosecutors' salaries have gone up 25% over the past 5 years.
  - Another issue is the workload of prosecutors. Currently, prosecutors each have over 300 cases in Texas. That is approximately 3 times the case load of defense attorneys. There are also mental health concerns from trauma of trying horrific cases. All this combined is causing retention issues.
  - The 88<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislative Session is in full swing. Bills to watch:
    - **HB 93:** Relating to changing the eligibility for community supervision for certain repeat intoxication offenders. PASSED THE HOUSE.
      - Adds that 2 or more DWIs not allowed to receive community supervision NO DWI Court on Felony DWI.
      - This would essentially end DWI Courts.
      - Would add to the backlog of cases since every case would likely go to court OR would lead to dismissals.
      - EMS issue: would not allow repeat (2 or more) DWI offenders to be hired by the State, including licensed EMS, even if the convictions were very old. Limits workforce.
    - **HB 218:** Relating to the criminal and licensing consequences of certain marijuana possession, drug paraphernalia possession, and tetrahydrocannabinol possession offenses; imposing a fee. PASSED HOUSE.
      - Moves THC and its isomers into its own penalty group of drugs. Officers may not arrest but write a citation instead. Class C Misdemeanor.
      - Could take some stress off the drug toxicology labs – less of a priority to test these cases.
    - **HB1163:** Adding enhancement for boating while intoxicated (BWI) with child passenger is still moving.
    - **HB 1742:** Relating to increasing the minimum term of imprisonment and changing the eligibility for community supervision, mandatory supervision, and parole for persons convicted of intoxication manslaughter.
      - Increases minimum penalty for intoxication manslaughter to 5 years.
- Judicial/Bond **Judge Weiser**
  - 900 Judges have completed the on-line 8 hour course offered by TCJ and required by HB 6 to be competent to set bonds.
  - **HB 2043:** Relating to a criminal justice system pretrial and sentencing database established by the Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System.

- Requires the Office of Court Administration to establish and maintain a database to collect, compile and analyze pretrial and sentencing information for each defendant arrested for an offense in this state.
    - Currently, in the Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence Committee.
    - Likely will not pass, and not enough funding is offered to complete this database, BUT legislators are starting to at least think about establishing tracking systems.
  - Judiciary Education:
    - Impaired Driving Symposium will be held this summer. A collaboration between all judicial education agencies. Good opportunity for all levels of the judiciary to come together and collaborate.
    - Two (2) DWI Summits will be held this summer. Two rural (ish) locations were chosen to allow for those judges to attend without having to leave their court for an extended period.
    - Texas Center for the Judiciary's On-Line Resources: DWI Resource Course with over 20 separate modules. Judges can access these modules at any time.
    - Noontime Knowledge – this monthly meeting, hosted by Judge Weiser, is scheduled to discuss current topics/issues.
- Treatment/Prevention/Research **Lisa Mijares (Prevention Subcommittee) on behalf of Charles Mathias**
  - Research Subcommittee article reviews coming soon!
  - Prevention Subcommittee met on April 11<sup>th</sup>. See meeting notes [here](#).
    - New committee formed to be all inclusive. Will continue to update K-12 Reference Book but also add new objectives.
- Retailer Enforcement and Education **Ronald Swenson**
  - Introduced David Doggett, Deputy Chief of the Field Operations Bureau. Department is responsible for underage compliance operations.
  - Top 7 inspection activity types (9/1/2021 to 4/25/2023)
    - 23,772 Total Inspections
      - Total violations found = 638 (2.68%)
    - 13,551 Open Inspections
    - 4,836 Underage Compliance Operations
    - 2,765 Exterior Surveillance (e.g., open container)
    - 1,320 Undercover Operations (e.g., selling to intoxicated person)
    - 789 Prohibited Hours - Open
    - 365 Remaining Activity Type
    - 147 Knock and Talk
  - Regional Detail (9/1/2021 to 4/25/2023)
    - Region 1: Lubbock = 4,052
    - Region 2: Arlington = 4,691
    - Region 3: Houston = 6,595
    - Region 4: Austin = 3,648
    - Region 5: San Antonio = 4,756
    - Unspecified = 31

- Limited resources are deployed to areas with the most alcohol beverage permits.
- Future Goal: overlay map of TABC inspections/operations with DWI KA crash data.
- Impaired Driving Database **Brian Grubbs**
  - Case Disposition Update: working on how to get accurate case disposition data into LEADRS.
    - Currently, the only reliable way is to have an experienced staff person go through each case (takes approx. 5 min. per case). Need a more efficient way.
    - Data dump from each county is an option but there is concern about the accuracy of the data without having an experienced staffer manually verify.
  - Updated version of LEADRS to come out next year. Currently, working on testing and documenting errors.
    - Not currently marketing to new agencies until rewrite is complete.
    - Updated version will have Single Sign-On (SSO) for agencies through their Records Management System (RMS). LEADRS will be a feature within each RMS.
  - Working with TxDOT to identify all crashes that have alcohol/drugs to overlay with crash and arrest data.
  - For all TMPA law enforcement trainings, attendees complete a survey. Goal is to streamline the survey to make it accessible for all law enforcement to complete.
  - Providing data analytics to the DRE program for field certifications.
    - This will allow insight into what drugs are being identified.
    - It will also display where the field certifications are being conducted.
  - Jordan Smith is a lead analyst for LEADRS/TMPA. Reach out for any data analytic needs. Email: [Jordan.Smith@leadrs.org](mailto:Jordan.Smith@leadrs.org)

12:00 PM

**LUNCH**

1:15 PM

Impaired Driving Plan

**Christine Adams**

1:30 PM

2023 Texas Impaired Driving Plan

- Updated [TxIDTF Charter](#):
  - The Charter was updated to reflect the new structure of the task force. Christine went through the modifications with the membership. The Updated 2023 Charter was approved and will be posted to the website.
- The 2022 NHTSA Assessment Recommendations were reviewed. The task force had an opportunity to provide comment on the status of the recommendations and how to accomplish each recommendation over the next 5 years (if possible).
- The feedback received will be incorporated into the 2023 Texas Impaired

## Driving Plan.

3:00 PM Conclusion and Adjournment

The next meeting of the Texas Impaired Driving Task Force will be held on July 27, 2023.