



**TIME Task Force Quarterly Meeting Minutes
Atlanta City Hall East
February 21, 2006**

1. Welcome: Deputy Chief Harold Dunovant, Atlanta Police Department

2. Introductions: Gary Millsaps, GDOT/HERO

There were a few new members in attendance at the Quarterly Meeting. Mr. Millsaps welcomed the new faces, briefly discussed the benefits and goals of the TIME Task Force, and initiated self-introductions among the group.

Goals of TIME

- Increase public awareness of regional incident management.
- Develop/deliver common training for incident responders.
- Coordinate, communicate, and cooperate between different agencies in the region.

Mission of TIME

Develop and sustain a region-wide incident management program to facilitate the safest and fastest roadway clearance, lessening the impact on emergency responders and the motoring public.

Purpose of TIME

- To continue the dialogue on ways to improve inter-agency coordination and cooperation.
- To create an opportunity for multi-agency training this promotes teamwork.
- To serve as a platform for participants to develop common operational strategies and a better understanding of other agencies' roles and responsibilities.

TIME Task Force Contact Information

Web site: <http://www.dot.state.ga.us/specialsubjects/time/index.shtml>

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3. After Incident Review (AIR) Presentation: Gwinnett County Police Department

An incident in Gwinnett County, I-85 Southbound @ Mall of Georgia was debriefed by Major Dan Branch and Sergeant Wayne Thaxton of the Gwinnett Police Department. In summary, at approximately 1445 hours a Honda, headed north on I-85, crossed the median and went into the southbound lanes near the SR 324 overpass. It struck a Toyota van in the left lane. The van spun and struck a Kenworth tractor-trailer in the right lane, then veered off into the median. The Kenworth continued south and stopped a short distance away. The Honda, which was pushed back slightly from its impact with the Toyota van, then was struck by a Peterbilt tractor-trailer in the left lane. A Westernstar tractor-trailer, which had been traveling behind the Peterbilt, swerved into the right lane to avoid a collision. It then crushed the Honda, which had been

knocked into the right lane by the Peterbilt. A Ford Focus traveling behind in the right lane swerved onto the right shoulder to avoid colliding with the Westernstar. The four vehicles came to rest 800 feet later – the Ford Focus pinned against the guardrail by the Westernstar, the Westernstar on top of the Honda, and the Peterbilt against the Honda. The Toyota van remained in the median and the Kenworth was stopped on the right shoulder a short distance ahead. There were several injuries, one entrapment and one fatality – the driver of the Honda, who was crushed under the left front tires of the Westernstar.

For a complete incident debrief report including incident response, lessons learned, and needed response areas of improvement please log onto the TIME Web site or contact Monica Luck (Monica.Luck@dot.state.ga.us).

4. The Importance of Incident Management: Commissioner Harold Linnenkohl, GDOT

Commissioner Linnenkohl discussed the need for Incident Management in the region, the financial impacts on the region resulting from delay and congestion, the risk of secondary crashes and the steps NaviGator and GDOT are taking to help with Incident Management. The Commissioner stressed the need to get multi-agencies involved in traffic incident management because every minute an incident is blocking one lane causes 5-7 minutes of delay. Collectively the region can improve incident management in Metro Atlanta by becoming members of TIME. The Governor is also very supportive of the goals and objectives of the TIME Task Force and incident management. The Commissioner concluded by urging the Task Force to continue to grow and expand and thanking TIME for its efforts in providing a safe and efficient transportation system.

To view the Commission’s presentation, “It’s about TIME for incident management” please log onto the TIME Web site.

5. National Incident Management Performance Measures: Daniel Fodera, FHWA

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is embarking in a national effort to measure incident management performance and Georgia is one of eleven focus states selected to aid in defining this process. Objectives to begin measuring performance include:

Candidate Objective	Proposed Performance Measures (s)
Reduce roadway clearance time.	Time between first recordable awareness (detection/notification/verification) of incident by a responsible agency and first confirmation that all lanes are available for traffic flow.
Reduce incident clearance time.	Time between first recordable awareness and time at which the last responder has left the incident scene.
Reduce time for needed responders to arrive on-scene after notification.	Time between notification and arrival of first qualified response person to arrive on incident scene.
Reduce number of secondary incidents.	Number of total incidents (regardless of primary or secondary) and severity of primary incident.

FHWA will create a forum to enable participating focus states to share experiences while implementing program level measures and further define the types of incidents that will be measured and evaluated. To participate in online forums and discussions regarding these performance measures logon to the Highway Community Exchange (<http://knowledge.fhwa.dot.gov/>).

6. Activity Updates: TIME Task Force Members

TIME Presentations: Rory Howe, Roswell Police Department

Mr. Howe began by welcoming a few newcomers to the Task Force:

- Shawn Bailey and Christine Hill, Rural/Metro EMS
- Captain Terri Osborne, Alpharetta Police Department

Various presentations are being conducted by the Task Force to educate on Incident Management. Below is a listing of recently conducted presentations:

- December 7, 2005 – Coroner's Association Meeting
- January 11, 2006 – Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) Board Meeting
- January 24, 2006 – House Motor Vehicles Committee
- February 27, 2006 – METRO Coroner's Association Meeting
- March 1, 2006 – TIME Presentation to GDOT Commissioner

Cobb County Train-the-Trainer Training: Scott Malcolm, Cobb County Fire

Mr. Malcolm updated Task Force members on train-the-trainer training being conducted in Cobb County. The training was conducted during February and March to make emergency services personnel who respond to traffic incidents aware of the need to increase safety and reduce incident clearance rates through multi-agency teamwork. The objective is to reduce the time it takes to clear traffic incidents from the roadway, which will decrease congestion and time wasted sitting in traffic backlogs while keeping the responding personnel and the traveling public safe. Upon completion, over 700 Police officers and 600 Fireman will be trained. For a complete copy of the lesson plan please log onto the TIME Website.

Georgia Incident Management Initiatives: Marvin Woodward, GRTA

The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) Task Force, supported by the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA), are deploying innovative incident management initiatives to further improve responder safety and regional mobility. The PB Farradyne Incident Management team conducted three workshops the week of March 6, 2006 to inform public safety representatives on the large number of improvements that have already taken place and to give everyone an opportunity to assist with setting the priorities for additional improvements.

The findings of these workshops will result in the following:

- Developing or upgrading legislation, interagency agreements, and policy changes;
- Outlining additional recommended initiatives desired by stakeholders; and
- Seeking funding for the top priority items agencies need to improve their programs.

Operations Committee: Larry Seabolt, Remtech Engineers

The Operations committee has been encouraging local agencies to obtain an Open Roads Policy for their jurisdictions. An example policy can be found on the TIME Web site. Agencies are urged to develop a policy to address unique issues in their areas. In addition, the committee is developing local TIM Teams to enhance local jurisdictional participation consisting of members of local emergency service agencies, who work together on a daily basis.

Towing and Recovery Legislation: Jerry Gossett, TRAG

The Towing and Recovery Association of Georgia (TRAG) is helping with the efforts of incident management and TIME. A House Bill was recently passed through legislature to address the issues of abandon vehicle and liabilities associated with the towing industry. A copy of HB 880 can be found on the Georgia General Assembly Web site (http://www.legis.ga.gov/legis/2005_06/). Jerry also recognized two newcomers to the Task Force:

- Randy Biichle, Wreck Master
- Don Cerovski, Wreck Master

7. TIME Opportunities: Carla Holmes, GDOT

If you would like to participate in a TIME Committee please contact the appropriate persons below. There is also a description of committee roles below, but please log on to the TIME Web site (Committees) for a full description of focus areas.

Program and Institutional Issues Committee – Chair, Carla Holmes

E-mail: carla.holmes@dot.state.ga.us)

This committee's focus is on issues that can be addressed by policy changes and institutional coordination. Some of their focus areas include:

- Formal Traffic Incident Management Program
- TIM Administrative Team
- Performance Measurement

After-Incident-Review (AIR) Subcommittee: AIR is a subcommittee within the PI&I committee responsible for debriefing incidents in the Metro Atlanta region by meeting with primary responders to obtain incident overviews, determine expectations, note strengths and weaknesses and share information

Operations Committee – Chair, Larry Seabolt (Remtech Engineers)

E-mail: lseabolt@remtech-eng.com

This committee's focus is on how to address the standardization of response and clearance as well as the institutional and jurisdictional barriers that reduce the efficiency of incident management. Some of their focus areas include:

- Procedures for Major Incidents
- Responder and Motorist Safety
- Response and Clearance Policies and Procedures

Communication and Technology Issues Committee – Co-Chairs, Major Stan Savage (Atlanta Police Department) and Monica Luck (GDOT)

E-mails: ssavage@atlantapd.org

Monica.Luck@dot.state.ga.us

This committee's focus is to coordinate timely and open communication both internally between transportation and public safety agencies as well as with the public and media. Some of their focus areas include:

- Integrated Interagency Communications
- Transportation Management Systems

- Traveler Information

Annual Conference Planning – Chair, Dee Corson (GDOT)

E-mail: d.corson@dot.state.ga.us

This committee is responsible for the planning and oversight of the annual TIME Conference.

8. Farewell Mshadoni Smith, FHWA

The TIME Task Force would like to give special recognition to Mshadoni Smith (formally with FHWA) for her hard work and dedication to the organization. Mshadoni is now pursuing a PhD from Georgia Tech in Civil Engineering. We wish her success in her education and hope she'll remain active with TIME!

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