

The newsletter of the Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) Task Force and the Towing and Recovering Incentive Program (TRIP)

## TIME Marks 10 Years

January 2012

Thanks for your participation and service with the TIME Task Force and TRIP. We are excited to kick off TIME's 10th year beginning this month.

Watch for information about our next Quarterly meeting and this year's annual conference. We are expecting great things in 2012.

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## Gwinnett Police Endorse Georgia Open Roads Policy

The Gwinnett County Police Department has officially endorsed the Georgia Open Roads Policy, becoming one of the first agencies in metro Atlanta to sign a supporting resolution.

The policy affirms that after incidents occur, clearing the travel portion of a roadway is a high priority and roadways will not be closed or restricted any longer than is absolutely necessary. The GDOT Commissioner and Department of Public Safety Colonel have signed the policy, and it is endorsed by the Governor of Georgia.

Contact [Kofi Wakhisi](#) to learn more about adopting the Open Roads Policy in your area.

## Congratulations Georgia State Patrol



Lt. Col. Russell Powell, Maj. Eddie Grier and Col. Mark McDonough

The Georgia State Patrol (GSP) can claim "best in the nation" recognition as winners of the National Law Enforcement Challenge (NLEC) sponsored by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP).

The NLEC award reflects the GSP's achievements for traffic safety programs and efforts to enforce laws while educating the public. The award was accepted in Chicago by the Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Public Safety (DPS), Col. Mark McDonough.

Other NLEC winners in Georgia included:

- *Municipal with 76-100 Sworn Officers* - Gainesville - 1st Place
- *Sheriff with 251-500 Sworn Deputies* - Forsyth County - 1st Place

## TIME Offers Commercial Vehicle Training Course



More than 100 representatives of the heavy towing and first responder communities recently completed the TIME Georgia Commercial Vehicle Training Course.

The training joined public safety and towing professionals for practical instruction and hands-on experience covering methods for quickly clearing incidents and restoring traffic flow.

Attendees like Lt. Daymon Ellsworth of Riverdale Fire Services expressed appreciation for this unique learning opportunity.

"This was the best hands-on extrication type of class I've ever attended," Ellsworth said. "We got to use an assortment of tools on vehicle types that aren't readily available to cut on."

Thanks to the following for assisting with the course: John Weaver, WreckMaster; Captain Mark Duke and Danny Thompson, Sandy Springs Fire & Rescue; Lawton Howard, New Image Towing; and Jerry Gossett, Gossett Consulting Services.

## Stepping Up To Help

Roosevelt Green with S&W Towing Services experienced a devastating house fire on Christmas Eve. While the Green family escaped unharmed, they suffered the total loss of their home and all of their possessions.

The family would greatly benefit from any contributions of cash, gift cards or other amenities. To get involved, please contact Glenda Waters at 404-894-3869.



The TIME Task Force is on Facebook. Please [click this link](#) and "like" us to stay connected to all the latest TIME information.

## TRIP Spotlight: New Image

New Image Towing and Recovery launched in 2000 as Lawton Howard and Earl Millirons combined their life-long towing industry experiences to focus on excellent customer service. With leadership assistance from Earl's wife, Susie, New Image has grown to offer specialized hauling, road serve and a fleet of nearly 30 power units, including a 50-ton NRC rotator.

Howard said New Image's first TRIP incident serves as one of his most memorable recoveries. A tanker loaded with glue additive turned over on I-285, and responders were making attempts to remove the truck's contents when New Image went to work.



New Image Towing and Recovery

"After almost 10 hours and many attempts at off loading, the scene was turned over to us," Howard said. "Within 90 minutes, the scene was clear and we were on our way home. This was due in large part to our TRIP training."

TRIP participation has elevated New Image's training commitment. Operators receive WreckMaster training and join in exercises with local fire fighters and other service providers.

## Meeting Recap: January 2012 Quarterly

More than 60 attendees joined in the TIME Task Force's first quarterly meeting of 2012. This gathering occurred at the Gwinnett County Police west precinct in Norcross.

Sgt. Chris Hyde of the Gwinnett County Police's Accident Investigation Unit provided a first-hand look at how his department transitioned to GPS-based crash scene investigations. Kofi Wakhisi, TIME's Director of Transportation, shared details on the adoption of the Georgia Open Road Policy and the newly updated TIM Guidelines.



Audience of the January Quarterly

January ushers in these new TIME Task Force Board members: Charles Dawson, GEMA; Kathy Zahul, GDOT; Hawk Hagebak, Cobb County P.D.; Scott Malcolm, Cobb County Fire; and Harris Blackwood, Governor's Office of Highway Safety. We also appreciate the service of our 2011 Board members: Major Fielding, GSP; Chris Hewitt, APD; and Mark Duke, Sandy Springs Fire & Rescue.

Thanks to all of these presenters – Daniel Hester, John Weaver, Carlos Campo, Chuck Bailey, Tom Sever and Warren Kinney. More details are available at [TimeTaskForce.com](#).