

# VERMONT GOVERNOR'S HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM

Monthly Newsletter

January / February 2017



## GHSP's New Electronic Grants Management System

By Allison Laflamme

Imagine having one place for your organization's grant documentation for your new GHSP grants; VTrans is proud to announce that the GHSP is going to make that dream a reality by offering an EGMS to our highway safety partners. The software is built by Agate IntelliGrants, and our system is named "GEARS" **Grant Electronic Application and Reporting System**.

We will be training our partners on how to use and apply for our awards in sessions in late March/early April for the FFY2018 application cycle. The staff will offer further trainings on how to submit FFY 2018 financial report forms and quarterly reports in August in GEARS. This federally funded NHTSA project will have a local benefit for your organization: saving staff administrative time, improving the delivery time of our services, all while improving error rates in the processing and tracking of documents.

An all-encompassing FFY2018 RFP will be emailed to potential Law Enforcement, Education Partners and the Traffic Records Coordinating Committee next week. We have been hard at work building a user friendly, intuitive EGMS that approved applicants will use for the entire life cycle of a GHSP award and beyond. For everything grants, you will be able to *get it* in "GEARS!"

## DUI Task Force Update

By Paul White, Northern LEL

The DUI Task Force is alive and well for 2017, and an organizational meeting was held in Rutland on January 20th. Several events are planned throughout the upcoming year and the Task Force kicked off its first event of 2017 on Super Bowl Sunday with three teams being deployed in Chittenden, Rutland, and Washington Counties.

The team Captains once again are Sgt. Al Fortin (Shelburne PD) for the Northwest Team, Lt. Kevin Geno (Rutland CSD) for the Mid-State Team, Lt. Dave Dutcher (Bennington PD) for the Southern Vermont Team, and Sgt. Kevin Moulton (Montpelier PD) for the Capital District Team. The Task Force is still looking to recruit a traffic safety champion to serve as a team captain for the Northeast Kingdom.

The next scheduled events will be in March to coincide with Mardi Gras and St Patrick's Day.

Need materials for your agency's Social Media page? Visit the [Traffic Safety Marketing](#) website, NHTSA's media resource for States, Partner organizations, and Highway Safety Professionals.

## From the 2017 NHTSA Campaign Calendar

March 17th is "St Patrick's Day"

IMPAIRED DRIVING:  
Primary Message

"*Buzzed Driving is  
Drunk Driving*"

Twitter Chat: =  
Buzzed Driving



### SaferRide, NHTSA's Mobile App

During St Patrick's Day, and throughout the year, NHTSA's SaferRide app will help keep drunk drivers off our roads by allowing users to call a taxi or a friend and by identifying their location so they can be picked up.

Download for **Android** devices from [Google Play](#) store, and **Apple** devices from [iTunes](#).

## Our Mission Statement

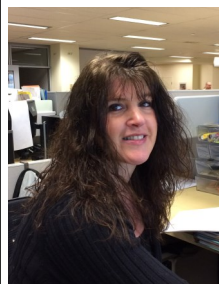
*Working toward the goal of "Zero Deaths" by promoting highway safety awareness through education and enforcement, thereby reducing crashes, saving lives, and improving the overall quality of life for those using*

## In This Issue

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## Welcome Sue McAvoy

Sue joined us the GHSP office on February 6th. She comes to us from the VTrans Contract Administration Unit. Sue has over 20 years experience working with Grants, Contracts and MOU's.



As one of the three GHSP Program Coordinator's, Sue will be the Impaired Driving Project Coordinator, specializing in the DRE

program and Impaired Driving projects.

Sue will oversee contracts such as Media and Outreach as well as data gathering surveys.

You can contact Sue at (802) - 522 - 4584 or [Susan.McAvoy@Vermont.gov](mailto:Susan.McAvoy@Vermont.gov). Welcome to the team, Sue!

## "Report Out" from NHTSA for the 2016 Traffic Records Assessment

Following up from the article in the October / November Newsletter. Every five years, all states must undergo the National Highway Traffic Safety Administrations (NHTSA) Traffic Records (TR) Assessment to retain eligibility for State Traffic Safety *Information System Improvement Grant* (405C) funds. The assessment ensures that complete, accurate, and timely traffic safety data is collected, analyzed, and made available for decision-making at the national, state, and local levels.

Out of 391 assessment questions, Vermont met the Advisory ideal for 169 questions (43.2%), partially met the Advisory ideal for 49 questions (12.5%), and did not meet the Advisory ideal for 173 questions (44.2%).

Vermont met the criteria outlined in the *Traffic Records Program Assessment Advisory* 73.7% of the time for Traffic Records Coordinating Committee Management, 93.8% of the time for Strategic Planning, 63.6% of the time for Crash, 61.5% of the time for Vehicle, 55.6% of the time for Driver, 23.7% of the time for Roadway, 35.2% of the time for Citation / Adjudication, 26% of the time for EMS / Injury Surveillance, and 23.1% of the time for Data Use and Integration. *Vermont's overall score was 66.6% against the National average of 65.6%.*

### Drunk Driving Facts

~On average, a drunk driver will drive under the influence 80 times before their first arrest.

~ Someone is injured in a drunk driving incident every 120 seconds.

~ Between 50 to 75% of the people who have had their licenses revoked due to driving under the influence drive illegally without their license.

~ Kids and teens who get involved with alcohol at a young age are 7 times more likely to be involved in an alcohol-related crash

**NOTHING KILLS A BUZZ LIKE GETTING PULLED OVER FOR BUZZED DRIVING**

**IT COULD COST YOU \$10,000**  
IN LEGAL FEES, COURT COSTS, & HIGHER INSURANCE RATES

- An average of one drunk-driving fatality occurred every 51 minutes in 2012
- 35% The rate of alcohol-impaired among drivers involved in fatal crashes at night in 2012
- In 2012, 10,322 people were killed on our roadways due to impaired driving

**BUZZED DRIVING IS DRUNK DRIVING**

**ALWAYS:**

- Plan a safe way home before the festivities begin
- Designate a sober driver and leave your car keys at home
- Use a taxi, call a sober friend or family member, or use public transportation

**BUZZED. BUSTED. BROKE.**

buzzeddriving.adcouncil.org  
twitter.com/NHTSAGov  
facebook.com/NHTSA

NHTSA

## Driver Behavior Paramount as Autonomous Vehicles Introduced

*GHSA Report Spotlights Safety Challenges in Era of New Technology*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – As autonomous vehicles (AVs) merge into our nation's traffic, the most pressing safety challenge for states will be preparing human drivers. While these vehicles have the potential for tremendous safety benefits, AVs will be sharing the road with traditional driver-operated cars for many decades, perhaps forever. And the public remains skeptical. Currently, only about one-fifth of drivers say they would buy an autonomous car as soon as one is available and fewer than one-third say they would be comfortable riding in one. This presents a myriad of safety challenges for states, which are responsible for educating the public, licensing drivers, and establishing and enforcing traffic laws.

The Governors Highway Safety Association's new report, [Autonomous Vehicles Meet Human Drivers: Traffic Safety Issues for States](#), examines these issues and recommends how states can prepare for AVs and put traffic safety at the forefront of all policy decisions. Dr. James Hedlund, a former senior official with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), authored the report.

According to Dr. Hedlund, "The research and media attention given to autonomous vehicles often overlooks the safety implications that a mix of driver-operated and autonomous vehicles will bring. Unfortunately, ignoring the driver side of the equation may negate many of the expected safety benefits."

The Association's report provides an overview of the current autonomous vehicle landscape and outlines suggested priorities for state Departments of Motor Vehicles (DMVs) and [State Highway Safety Offices](#) (SHSOs) as AVs become more widespread. Key recommendations include: ([Click here](#) to read entire GHSA Article.)

### Deaths on Vermont Roadways

Year	Deaths
2012	77
2013	71
2014	44
2015	57
2016	63

**06 Death as of February 17th, 2017**

### Governor's Highway Safety Program

Governor's Highway Safety Program  
Agency of Transportation  
One National Life Drive  
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[www.ghsp.vermont.gov](http://www.ghsp.vermont.gov)

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