



2025 New York State Highway Safety Symposium

October 14 –17, 2025

Lake Ontario Event & Conference Center, Oswego, New York

Session and Presentation Descriptions

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

8:30 – 8:40 AM

Opening Ceremonies

Opening Ceremonies Emcee: Rachel Lugo, Division Director, EAC Network

Presentation of Colors

Troop D Color Guard, New York State Police

National Anthem The Star-Spangled Banner

Performed by Trooper Amanda Patchen, New York State Police

8:40 – 9:00 AM

Welcome

Welcome Remarks by Mary Tanner-Richter, Deputy Commissioner for Traffic Safety & Investigations, NYS Department of Motor Vehicles

Presenter Biography:

Mary Tanner-Richter was appointed to the position of Deputy Commissioner for Traffic Safety and Investigations in January 2025. Ms. Tanner-Richter began her career at DMV as Deputy Counsel in 2024. In her role as Deputy Commissioner, Ms. Tanner-Richter oversees the Division of Field Investigations and the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee (GTSC). Before joining the DMV, Mary worked as an Assistant District Attorney in Albany County beginning in 2001 and served as its Vehicular Crimes Bureau Chief from 2008 to 2024. Mary also served as one of two New York State Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor from 2017 to 2023, and on the Committee on Character and Fitness for the Third Judicial District from 2018 to 2023. When Mary is away from the office she enjoys spending time with her family, being the loudest cheerleader at her girls' volleyball games and getting in a run or two. Ms. Tanner-Richter is a graduate of Nazareth College of Rochester and Albany Law School.

9:00 – 10:15 AM
Keynote Presentation

**Traffic Safety Through Effective Traffic Enforcement by Sheriff Michael A. Lewis,
Wicomico County, Maryland**

Description: Sheriff Lewis will present an extensive, power-packed presentation on the latest, safest methods and approaches to motor vehicle traffic stops.

Presenter Biography:

Elected November 2006, and now serving his fourth consecutive four-year term, Sheriff Lewis has worked tirelessly to transform the Wicomico County Sheriff's Office in Maryland into one of superior service to its citizens, an office that is very proactive while on patrol, while providing its officers and command staff with the tools and resources they need to educate the public and build sustainable community relationships. He is recognized as an expert in the areas of highway interdiction, hidden compartments, and drug valuation.

10:15 – 10:45 AM
Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors

Dockside Bar & Grill, 1st Floor

Energize with a continental breakfast while engaging with our exhibitors. This informal networking opportunity allows attendees to enjoy fresh pastries, fruit, coffee, and tea while exploring the latest products, services, and innovations showcased by our partners. It's the perfect time to make new connections, gather insights, and fuel up for the sessions ahead.

10:45 – 11:40 AM
Concurrent Sessions 1

Tackling Anxiety and Mental Health for Young Driver Safety

Concurrent Session 1A, Ballroom A

Description: These session presentations address the critical issue of anxiety and mental health among young drivers and its impact on road safety. It explores the psychological challenges faced by young drivers, including stress, anxiety, and other mental health concerns, and how these factors can affect their driving performance and decision-making abilities.

Presenters:

"Why Are Young Drivers So Anxious Behind the Wheel? Uncovering the Hidden Causes and Impacts on Perceived Driving Skills" by Dr. Austin Angulo, Assistant Professor, University at Buffalo – SUNY.

"Mind on the Road: The Intersection of Mental Health & Safe Driving" by Lauren Zimmerman-Meade, Director of Field Engagement, SADD Inc. and Louis Pratt, Community Engagement Specialist, SADD Inc.

Moderator: Lauren Savino, Program Educator, Orange County STOP-DWI

Presenter Biographies:

Dr. Austin V. Angulo is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering at University at Buffalo (UB). His research interests include CAV technologies, vulnerable road user safety, micromobility, human factors in transportation, virtual reality simulation and transportation sustainability and equity. At UB, Dr. Angulo founded the

Transportation Research and Visualization Laboratory (TRAVL), a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to the research, training, and education of human interaction with transportation infrastructure using naturalistic and immersive virtual simulation methodologies. Dr. Angulo received his PhD from the University of Virginia where he founded the Omni-Reality and Cognition Laboratory and was a Dwight David Eisenhower Fellow at the Federal Highway Administration's Turner Fairbank Highway Research Center. He is a committee member of the TRB Standing Committee on Road User Measurement and Evaluation (ACH50).

Lauren Zimmerman-Meade is SADD National's Director of Field Engagement. Previously serving as the New York State SADD Coordinator, Lauren works to build and grow the vast network of SADD students & adult allies and support the field team in their efforts to build SADD's capacity globally. She is a two-time Lifesavers Conference presenter, 2023 GTSC Chair Award recipient, and SADD Alumni aiming to inspire the next generation of SADD leaders.

Louis Pratt is a Class of 2027 Junior at Ithaca College studying Advertising, PR, and Marketing Communications. Louis has been with SADD since 2020 and has a dedicated passion for the mission of creating safer decision-making cultures among students. Louis has the honor of being the '23-'24 National Student Leadership Council President and serves NY SADD as the Community Engagement Specialist. Louis is the current Chair of their Emerging Leaders Council, a group of SADD students who are hoping to make change being post-high school SADD students. In his spare time, which does exist, he loves graphic design, Taylor Swift, sparkles, and "retail therapy." Louis believes we need to be the change that we wish to see.

Traffic Enforcement Training with Sheriff Lewis

Concurrent Session 1B, Ballroom B & C

Description: Law Enforcement participants will receive specialized instruction regarding high-risk traffic stops and roadside interview techniques designed to detect criminal deceptive behavior.

Presenter:

Sheriff Michael A. Lewis, Wicomico County, Maryland

Moderator: John Winchell, Undersheriff, Washington County STOP-DWI Coordinator

Presenter Biography:

Elected November 2006, and now serving his fourth consecutive four-year term, Sheriff Lewis has worked tirelessly to transform the Wicomico County Sheriff's Office in Maryland into one of superior service to its citizens, an office that is very proactive while on patrol, while providing its officers and command staff with the tools and resources they need to educate the public and build sustainable community relationships. He is recognized as an expert in the areas of highway interdiction, hidden compartments, and drug valuation.

Pedestrian Safety in a Vehicle-Centric World

Concurrent Session 1C, Rooms 2 & 3

Description: In this presentation, we will explore the challenges faced in raising awareness about pedestrian safety in our communities, particularly in an era where traffic fatalities, aggressive driving, and driver/pedestrian distraction are on the rise. A significant cultural barrier is the widespread belief that roadways are designed for motor vehicle transportation only, leading to a mindset that prioritizes vehicles over pedestrians. We will discuss how this culture not only puts pedestrians at risk but also hinders progress toward safer streets. On the local level, we will focus on the importance of community collaboration and utilizing local resources to foster a cultural shift—one that values pedestrian safety to drive positive change, reduce traffic-related injuries and fatalities, and ultimately create safer, more inclusive environments for everyone.

Presenter:

Aisha Phillips, Senior Public Health Education Coordinator, Dutchess County Department of Health

Moderator: Margaret Beers, Chair, New York State Traffic Safety Program

Presenter Biography:

Aisha Phillips is a passionate advocate for pedestrian safety, dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of prioritizing pedestrians in traffic safety discussions. With a deep commitment to highlighting the often-overlooked needs of those on foot, Aisha believes pedestrians deserve equal attention as vehicles in the conversation surrounding road safety.

Through this presentation, Aisha aims to educate and inspire others to take action in improving infrastructure and policies to protect pedestrians and reduce the risks they face daily.

11:50 AM –12:20 PM

Concurrent Sessions 2

Motorcycle Safety Trends and Strategies for a Safer Ride

Session 2A, Ballroom A

Description: In this panel discussion, we will explore the latest trends in motorcycle safety and discuss effective strategies to ensure a safer riding experience. We will begin by examining current statistics on motorcycle accidents and identifying key risk factors. Next, we will highlight the importance of rider education and training programs, as well as the role of protective gear in preventing injuries. Finally, we will discuss policy recommendations and community initiatives aimed at promoting motorcycle safety. Join us as we navigate the road to a safer ride for all motorcyclists.

Presenters:

Brandi Behling - Program Manager, New York State Motorcycle Safety Program

Mary Harding - Director, Highway Safety Bureau, NYS Department of Transportation

Christopher Roscoe - Highway Safety Program Representative, NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

Moderator: Justin O'Connor, Director, NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

Presenter Biographies:

Brandi Behling is the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's Program Manager of the New York State Motorcycle Safety Program. She is focused on delivering high-quality rider education, building partnerships and promoting safer roads for riders and drivers. Behling has been an MSF-certified RiderCoach since 2017, teaching more than 240 courses including the Basic *RiderCourse*, 3-Wheel Basic *RiderCourse*, and the Basic *RiderCourse2*. Her deep understanding of the RiderCoach Guide, the New York State Motorcycle Safety Program Policies & Procedures, and RiderCoach Rules of Professional Conduct make her a valuable resource for other coaches and site managers. Behling continues to teach Basic *RiderCourse* classes and conducts Quality Assurance Visits while overseeing the state program. She is always looking to help expand the base of quality RiderCoaches in New York and is often recruiting and vetting RiderCoach candidates. She also advises training providers on training bikes and compliance. Prior to working for the Motorcycle Safety Foundation, Behling worked with court systems and school districts. She holds an MBA from the University of Phoenix and a Master's Degree in Human Resources.

Mary Harding is the Highway Safety Bureau Director at the NYS Department of Transportation within the Office of Traffic Safety and Mobility, overseeing Highway Safety Improvement Program funding, the development of the Strategic Highway Safety Plan, Permit Issuance and Work Zone Traffic Control Quality Assurance. She previously worked in the Department's Design-Build program in the Project Management Office; oversaw the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program within the Local Programs Bureau; and managed State Government Relations. Prior to joining the Department in April 2006, she worked in the Governor's Office and the NYS Senate for 8 years. Mary holds a Bachelor's and Master's degree from the State University of New York at Albany's Rockefeller College.

Christopher Roscoe started working as a Highway Safety Program Representative at the NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee in July 2025. He is passionate and experienced motorcyclist who prefers Harley Cruisers/Touring. He started riding by taking the Motorcycle Safety Foundation course at Hudson Valley Community College in Spring 2016.

Technology to Better Understand and Prevent Distracted Driving

Concurrent Session 2B, Ballroom B & C

This session will share how the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety is exploring how we can use technology to better understand and prevent distracted driving. The presentation will preview an upcoming study that links telematics crash data with police crash reports to better understand the magnitude of underreporting in police crash reports. To better prevent distracted driving, the Institute surveyed owners of Subaru's equipped with DriverFocus, a driver attention system designed to alert the driver when distraction and drowsiness are sensed and redirect their attention back to the road. Nearly 9 in 10 drivers

surveyed drive with the system on most or every time they drive, and there is general agreement among the sample that the system can provide safety benefits.

Presenter:

Aimee Cox, Research Scientist, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety

Moderator: Rachel Lugo, Division Director, EAC Network

Presenter Biography:

Aimee Cox is a research scientist at the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Since joining the Institute in 2020, her work has focused on distracted driving and older driver safety. She holds a B.S. from Eastern Michigan University and an M.P.H. from the University of South Florida.

12:30 – 1:30 PM
Hot Lunch Buffet

Alexandria's Ballroom

Hot Lunch Buffet with salads, fruits, and dessert

1:40 – 2:35 PM
Concurrent Sessions 3

Emilee's Challenge Educational Trailer

Session 3A, Ballroom A

Description: Visit this educational utility trailer outfitted with information and the remains of a vehicle that was involved in a four-person fatality due to intoxicated driving, and information on another fatal crash due to distracted driving. A testimonial video will play while attendees walk around and observe the aftermath.

Presenters:

James Allard, Sheriff, Steuben County Sheriff's Office

Kim Clark, Dispatcher, Steuben County Sheriff's Office

Moderator: Brian DiPalma, Highway Safety Program Representative, NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

Presenter Biographies:

Sheriff Allard, a resident of Caton, is a US Army veteran who joined the City of Corning Police Department in 1988 and retired in 2009 after rising from patrolman to Lieutenant. After his retirement, Sheriff Allard worked part-time as a police officer for the Town of Caton and the Village of Painted Post, Town of Corning Constable, and court security for the towns of Corning, Hornby and Lindley until 2013. He also served as a session director for the Southern Tier Law Enforcement Academy at Corning Community College and served as an adjunct instructor at the school until his appointment to his post of Undersheriff in 2013. Sheriff Allard has been married since 1987 to his wife, Wendy, and they have three adult children, one daughter-in-law, one son-in-law and two grandchildren.

Kim Clark is a Dispatcher with the Steuben County Sheriff's Office and the mother of Emilee Rawleigh, a 21-year-old woman who passed away after being involved in a crash in 2019. Emilee was not wearing a seatbelt and distracted her driver in the final moments before the fatal collision in Cohocton. Kim now travels to schools and communities to tell Emilee's story.

Navigating the Evolving Vehicular Crimes Landscape: Legal Updates and Emerging Challenges

Session 3B, Ballrooms B & C

Description: This session will provide a comprehensive overview of recent developments in vehicular crimes case law and legislation in the State of New York, and discuss emerging issues impacting the prosecution and enforcement of vehicular crimes across the state.

Presenter:

Stephanie Dellinger, Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor, Office of the District Attorney, Suffolk County

Moderator: Pamela Aini, Administrator, NYS STOP-DWI Association, Inc.

Presenter Biography:

Prior to her appointment as the Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor, ADA Dellinger was a prosecutor in Nassau County since 2008. While there, she spent over a decade prosecuting vehicular crimes including multiple high-profile cases where individuals had been seriously injured or killed by drunk, drug impaired, or reckless drivers. ADA Dellinger rose through the ranks and was promoted to numerous supervisory positions including Deputy Bureau Chief of their misdemeanor DWI Unit, and later as the Deputy Bureau Chief of their felony Vehicular Crimes Bureau.

Partnerships Advance Road Safety in New York State Through the Crash Outcome Data Evaluation System (CODES)

Session 3C, Rooms 2 & 3

Description: The Crash Outcome Data Evaluation System (CODES) in New York State (NYS) is a powerful tool for investigating modifiable factors and emerging trends and issues in road traffic crash deaths, injury, and related medical diagnoses and costs. CODES is created through multi-agency data cooperation using probabilistic linkage that matches individual records from the NYS Department of Health (DOH) Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS) database of emergency department (ED) visits and hospitalizations to the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Accident Information System (AIS) police and motorist crash reports. CODES includes data on road users, user behaviors such as impairment/speeding, injury characteristics, vehicles, roadways, crash and environmental characteristics and post-crash care.

Presenters:

Michael Bauer, Bureau Director, Occupational Health and Injury Prevention, NYS Department of Health
Dr. Joyce Pressley, Associate Professor, Epidemiology and Health Policy and Management, Columbia University
Leah Hines, Research Scientist III, NYS Department of Health

Moderator: Alan Bell, Senior Research Support Specialist, Institute for Traffic Safety Management & Research

Presenter Biographies:

Michael Bauer, MS, is the Director of the Bureau of Occupational Health and Injury Prevention at the New York State Department of Health. He has been working in injury and violence surveillance, epidemiology, and prevention for over 22 years and is committed to moving research to practice, ensuring that evidence-based programs are reaching the appropriate populations. As Bureau Director, he provides leadership, guidance, and direction with a focus on translating data into action. He has co-authored several peer reviewed articles and his work has been presented at numerous national and state conferences. He is a principal investigator on three grants from the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee.

Dr. Joyce Pressley is Faculty in the Departments of Epidemiology and Health Policy and Management at Columbia University where she teaches and directs the Outreach Core for the Columbia Center for Injury Science and Prevention. Dr. Pressley's experience crosses the disciplinary boundaries of public health policy, epidemiology, emergency medicine, critical care, economics and health care management. She has been a frequent collaborator with the New York State Department of Health on their Crash Outcomes Data Evaluation System. She has coauthored studies on using the safe system approach to understand motor vehicle crashes in NYS.

Leah Hines is an Epidemiologist and Unit Head for Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance in the Bureau of Occupational Health and Injury Prevention (BOHIP). Having been with BOHIP for 14 years, her work includes applying data to identify issues and inform prevention strategies on variety of injury topics, including motor vehicle traffic injuries, self-harm, older adult falls, and

violent deaths. She has worked as an Epidemiologist and Program Manager for the Crash Outcome Data Evaluation System (CODES) in her time with BOHIP, using CODES and many other data sources to evaluate and inform traffic safety program activities, to build partnerships, and to prevent injuries and deaths. She has her Master of Public Health (MPH) with a concentration in Epidemiology from the University at Albany School of Public Health.

2:45 – 3:15 PM

Concurrent Sessions 4

Data-driven Recommendations to Promote Safer Driving Practices & Technologies

Session 4A, Ballroom A

Description: This session will explore innovative approaches to enhancing road safety through data-driven methodologies. By leveraging advanced analytics machine learning, we aim to provide actionable insights and practical solutions for reducing traffic accidents and promoting safer driving behaviors.

Presenters:

"Predicting and Recommending Safe Driving Speeds Using High-Resolution Connected Vehicle and Weather Data: A Machine Learning Approach" by Wen Zhang, PhD student, University at Buffalo

"Analyze Safety Impacts of Lane-changing Behaviors in Highway Traffic" by Dachuan Zuo, PhD candidate, C2SMARTER Center, New York University

Moderator: Lauren Savino, Program Educator, Orange County STOP-DWI

Presenter Biographies:

Wen Zhang is a Ph.D. candidate in Computer Science and Engineering at the State University of New York at Buffalo. Her research focuses on data-driven artificial intelligence and optimization for transportation safety and mobility, including safe driving speed prediction, as well as vehicle routing problems with pickup and delivery.

Dachuan Zuo is a Ph.D. candidate in Transportation and Highway Engineering at New York University (NYU) Tandon School of Engineering, under the advisement of Dr. Kaan Ozbay. His research focuses on AI-driven traffic safety modeling, digital twin integration, and machine learning applications in transportation systems. He has contributed to the development of AI-powered tools for traffic risk assessment and congestion prediction, and digital-twin platforms for traffic flow prediction and safety evaluation. His work also includes safety potential field modeling for real-time collision risk quantification, graph neural networks for large-scale traffic forecasting, and physics-informed imitation learning for driving behavior modeling. Dachuan previously earned his M.S. from Northwestern University and a B.S. from Southwest Jiaotong University. His research has been presented at IEEE ITSC and TRB Annual Meetings.

Vision Zero - Safety Action Plans

Concurrent Session 4B, Ballrooms B & C

Description: "Vision Zero" is a strategy to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries. The Capital Region received one of a current total of 45 Safety Action Plan grants in New York under the US Department of Transportation's Safe Streets & Roads for All program. This presentation will focus on the collaboration and public outreach built into the scope of work, as well as adaptations made over the course of the 19-month contract. These include public and virtual workshops, web presence, and small group meetings.

Presenter:

Carrie Ward, Principal Transportation Planner, Capital Region Transportation Council

Moderator: Lindsay Tomidy, Monroe County STOP-DWI Coordinator & Office of Traffic Safety Supervisor

Presenter Biography:

Carrie Ward is a principal transportation planner at the Capital Region Transportation Council, currently responsible for safety

planning. She recently managed the consultant contract for the region's Safe Streets and Roads for All-funded Safety Action Plan, and has overseen the analysis of pedestrian accessibility for cities, villages, and towns in the region.

3:15 – 3:35 PM

Sweet Treat with Exhibitors

Dockside Bar & Grill, 1st Floor

Join us for some ice cream as we head into the last session of the day!

3:35 – 4:30 PM

Concurrent Sessions 5

Collaborating with Universities – Research, Innovations & Partnerships

Session 5A, Ballroom A

Description: Hear about the exciting projects and collaborations that universities are involved in. From partnerships with industry leaders to student-led initiatives, find out how academic institutions are driving innovation and making a real-world impact. Join us for an engaging panel discussion featuring leading universities showcasing their cutting-edge transportation and traffic safety research, state-of-the-art labs, and innovative activities. This event will bring together experts from various institutions to share their insights.

Presenters:

“Helping State and Local Municipalities Prepare for and Respond to Severe Weather - An Introduction to The NY State Weather Risk Communication Center” by Ethan Burwell, Meteorologist, NYS Weather Risk Communication Center
“Addressing Roadway Safety at the SUNY UB Transportation Research and Visualization Laboratory” by Dr. Austin Angulo, Assistant Professor, University at Buffalo – SUNY

Moderator: Justin O'Connor, Director, NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

Presenter Biographies:

Ethan Burwell is a meteorologist and emergency manager who has spent over two decades studying and forecasting weather. He holds a B.S. in Atmospheric Science from Cornell University and has meteorological experience through the National Weather Service, Ulster County, and the Northeast Regional Climate Center. His research has included integrating meteorology into grade school curricula and investigating the human impacts of weather. Understanding that preparation and response are essential aspects related to weather impacts, he studied crisis planning and risk communication while attaining an M.S. in Emergency Management through Millersville University. As an emergency manager, he has served on local emergency planning committees and was a fellow with the Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management. Ethan currently works as a meteorologist at the New York State Weather Risk Communication Center.

Dr. Austin V. Angulo is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering at University at Buffalo (UB). His research interests include CAV technologies, vulnerable road user safety, micromobility, human factors in transportation, virtual reality simulation and transportation sustainability and equity. At UB, Dr. Angulo founded the Transportation Research and Visualization Laboratory (TRAVL), a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to the research, training, and education of human interaction with transportation infrastructure using naturalistic and immersive virtual simulation methodologies. Dr. Angulo received his PhD from the University of Virginia where he founded the Omni-Reality and Cognition Laboratory and was a Dwight David Eisenhower Fellow at the Federal Highway Administration's Turner Fairbank Highway Research Center. He is a committee member of the TRB Standing Committee on Road User Measurement and Evaluation (ACH50).

Criminal Charges in Fatal Motor Vehicle Crashes

Session 5B, Ballroom B & C

Description: This presentation will analyze the considerations in deciding whether to charge a driver criminally after a fatal motor vehicle crash and review how such cases are resolved. It is presented by the Niagara County District Attorney's Office's Vehicular Crimes Bureau Chief and a Niagara Falls Police Lieutenant involved in the Crash Management Unit. We will use several Niagara County cases as examples.

Presenter:

Christine Savoia, Vehicular Crimes Bureau Chief, Niagara County District Attorney's Office

Moderator: Rachel Lugo, Division Director, EAC Network

Presenter Biography:

Christine M. Savoia joined the Niagara County DA's Office in July 2016 after spending one year practicing insurance defense litigation in a private law firm in Buffalo. Christine has been the Vehicular Crimes Bureau Chief for the Niagara County DA's Office since July 2022. Christine moved to WNY from Long Island, New York where she served as an Assistant District Attorney in Nassau County for three years. During her tenure at the Nassau County DA's Office, Christine worked in the District Court Bureau, specifically in the DWI Unit, as well as in the Veteran's Treatment Court and the Early Case Assessment Bureau. Christine also had the privilege of prosecuting military law offenses during her internship with the United States Air Force JAG Corps in Honolulu, Hawaii. Christine received her J.D. from Penn State Law and B.A. from St. John's University.

Enhancing Safety and Efficiency Through Traffic Incident Management (TIM)

Session 5C, Rooms 2 & 3

Description: This panel offers a look into the Traffic Incident Management (TIM) training program, highlighting its impact on roadway safety and responder coordination. Attendees will gain insight into the structure and goals of TIM training. The session will also explore practical applications of TIM strategies in smaller-scale environments, such as two-lane rural roads, where resources may be limited but the need for rapid, coordinated response remains critical. Whether you're new to TIM or looking to expand its use in your community, this session provides valuable perspectives on adapting best practices to diverse roadway settings.

Panelists:

Amber Stevens, Emergency Management Coordinator, NYS Department of Transportation

Rich Flanagan, Instructor for the NYS Office of Emergency Management and Member of TIM Steering Committee

Technical Sergeant Shane Buckley, Traffic Incident Management Supervisor, New York State Police

Moderator: John Winchell, Undersheriff, Washington County STOP-DWI Coordinator

Presenter Biographies:

Amber Stevens comes to us today as the Emergency Management Coordinator for NYSDOT. Amber has been working in the transportation and emergency management sectors for over 20 years. She has a varied background. Amber has experience in writing construction disaster management plans, physically managing traffic incidents, building/ repairing roads, operating tractor-trailers/ heavy equipment, designing projects, preparing cost estimates, coordinating on-scene emergencies, compiling response & mitigation plans, and teaching, building, and strengthening the knowledge of emergency and traffic incident management. She has received acknowledgment for her many roles in storm and incident responses, as well as the Empire Public Service Award in 2019. Amber graduated Summa Cum Laude with Bachelor of Science in Homeland Security & Emergency Management from Excelsior University, graduate of the National Emergency Management Basic Academy & National Emergency Management Advanced Academy, she is involved in the NYS Association of Traffic Engineers, a member of her local Traffic safety board, a leading member of the Statewide TIM steering committee, a member of the All-Hazards Incident Management Association, a member of the NYS Incident Management Team, and on top of being a member of International Association of Emergency Management she recently is 1 of the 85 people in NY to receive her International Certification of Emergency Management (CEM®) and is 1 of 14 people in the transportation industry worldwide to achieve this honor.

Rich Flanagan is an instructor for the NYS Office of Emergency Management, teaching courses in the incident management system, Emergency Management, and other aspects of emergency response and emergency planning and preparedness. He specializes in courses dealing with the national incident management system, integrated multi agency response to incidents, and coordination of emergency planning for educational institutions. Rich holds an associate's degree in Criminal Justice, a bachelor's degree in Fire Service Administration and Management, and has completed graduate studies in education. He is a

NYS certified police general topics instructor, a State and nationally certified level II fire instructor, and a nationally certified level II fire officer. He is also a nationally certified traffic incident management (TIMS) instructor, and a nationally certified NIMS/ICS instructor.

Technical Sergeant Shane Buckley has been a member of the New York State Police since June 2013. He has been assigned to Troop B Headquarters in Ray Brook as the Traffic Incident Management Supervisor since February 2020. He has been the Detail Supervisor, NYSP Point of Contact, for Ironman Lake Placid since 2023. His previous experience included his work as a Project Superintendent with Barrett Paving Materials Inc. and included compliance with MUTCD and Work Zone Traffic Control standards on several NYSDOT projects.

Thursday, October 16, 2025

8:30 – 9:00 AM

***Plenary Presentation: Updates to the New York State
Driver Violation Point System***

Description: Learn more about the updated New York State Driver Violation Point System, equipping traffic safety professionals with the knowledge and tools to better interpret, apply, and communicate the system's policies and implications.

Presenter:

Joshua Vinciguerra, Deputy Commissioner and Counsel, NYS Department of Motor Vehicles

Presenter Biography:

Joshua Vinciguerra was appointed Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel in February 2023. Mr. Vinciguerra serves as the Chief Legal Officer of DMV and provides legal advice to the Commissioner, the Governor's Executive Chamber, and DMV's Executive team. He also provides guidance to all program areas within DMV and is responsible for over 120 attorneys and staff in the Legal Division. He oversees all aspects of administrative law at DMV, including the Safety Hearings Unit and the Administrative Adjudication Section of the Traffic Violations Bureau. As part of DMV's Executive team, he participates in setting the strategic direction for the agency. Before coming to DMV, Mr. Vinciguerra served as Director of the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement at the New York State Department of Health. He is a former Assistant United States Attorney, Assistant Attorney General, and Assistant District Attorney in the Manhattan District Attorney's Office. Mr. Vinciguerra is a graduate of Cornell University and Albany Law School.

9:00 – 9:15 AM

Highway Safety Awards Ceremony

Morning Emcee: Lindsay Tomidy, Monroe County STOP-DWI Coordinator & Office of Traffic Safety Supervisor

Join us as we honor outstanding contributions to road safety and recognize the dedication of those working to make our streets safer for everyone.

The William T. Smith Award, Awarded by NYS STOP-DWI, Inc.

Recipient: William Johnson, Coordinator, Dutchess County STOP-DWI/Traffic Safety

Roy Thorpe Award, Awarded by NYS Association of Traffic Safety Boards

Recipient: Officer Patrick Morash, Police Officer, Suffolk County Police Department

Recipient: Officer Ryan Scheg, Police Officer, Greece Police Department

Recipient: Thomas Carr, Esq., Assistant Deputy Counsel, New York State Unified Court System, Office for Justice Initiatives

L. Richard Novelli Award, Awarded by NYS Association of Traffic Safety Boards

Recipient: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County

Chairman's Award, Awarded by NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

Recipient: Brandon Lummis, Oswego Police Department

Partners for Safety Awards, Awarded by NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

Recipient: The Westport Safe Roads Committee

9:30 – 10:15 AM

***Continental Breakfast Break with Exhibitors and Meet & Greet with
NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee (GTSC)***

Connect with program representatives and fiscal staff from GTSC during the breakfast break. Ask questions, brainstorm ideas, or just stop by to network and build relationships. Since exchanging information and fostering a collaborative traffic safety program helps to ensure success, this Meet & Greet will provide a friendly opportunity to interact and engage with staff and management from GTSC.

Mary Arthur
Tammy Bopp
Jiangni Brown
Brian DiPalma

Robert Ellis
Soon Koo Jung
Jim Knapp
Maureen Kozakiewicz

Justin O'Connor
Brittany Paff
Tamika Parsons
Christopher Roscoe

10:15 – 11:10 AM

Concurrent Sessions 6

Traffic Safety - A Core Mission of Policing

Session 6A, Ballroom A

Description: Serious crashes and hazardous driving continue to plague our roadways causing deaths, injuries, property damage and economic losses. Law enforcement professionals should recognize that traffic safety is public safety and therefore traffic safety must be an integral part of an agency's policing operation. A comprehensive traffic safety plan is more than simply enforcement and can produce long-term positive impact for both the agency and the community it serves. This session will discuss best practices on how to build and sustain an effective traffic safety program, identify current trends that impact traffic safety and explore the benefits that will result in the areas of harm reduction and increased quality of life, crime prevention and reduction and enhanced community outreach and service. Issues regarding training, culture and leadership will be discussed along with the importance of using data-driven strategies including how to best locate, analyze and apply related data in order to ensure accurate records and efficient deployment of personnel. Resources available to assist an agency's traffic safety efforts, including the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee (GTSC) grant process, will also be discussed.

Presenters:

Daniel Denz, Traffic Safety Services Coordinator, NYS Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc.
Bill Georges, Assistant Chief (Ret.), NYS Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc.

Moderator: Lonni Carroll, NYS CPSB State Chair & Region 3 Coordinator, Livingston Co. Sheriff's Office

Presenter Biographies:

Chief (Ret.) Daniel Denz began his law enforcement career in January 1988 as a Police Officer with the City of Virginia Beach Police Department, VA. He moved back to his hometown in 1989 when he was hired as a police officer for the Town of West Seneca. Chief Denz served 32 years as a police officer rising thru the ranks, serving as Chief of Police for the last 8 years of his career. During his law enforcement career, Chief Denz served as President of the Erie County Chiefs of Police Association, 2nd VP of the NY State Association of Chiefs of Police, is the sitting Treasurer of the Western New York Chiefs of Police Association and is an active member of the International Chiefs of Police Association. Chief Denz is currently employed as the NYSACOP Traffic Safety Services Coordinator and Law Enforcement Liaison to the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. In addition, he serves as a trainer for NHTSA & USDOT Transportation Safety Institute. He holds an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice, a Bachelor of Science in Management and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy Session 212.

William P. Georges is President and CEO of The Georges Group LLC. The firm specializes in the areas of crowd management/event planning, alcohol abuse/misuse prevention efforts, criminal justice programs and traffic safety management. Prior to forming the firm, Bill spent nine years as senior vice president of The Century Council, a national, not-for-profit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C., where he oversaw the Council's award-winning efforts in developing and implementing programs, strategies and tactics to fight alcohol misuse, drunk driving and underage drinking. He is a retired twenty-five year veteran of the Albany, New York Police Department where he served in a variety of assignments and rose through the ranks to become Assistant Chief of Police/Chief of Patrol. His career had a major concentration in special operations where he was responsible for all specialized services, planning/oversight of special events and traffic safety management/programs. During his law enforcement career, he was temporarily assigned to the United States Department of Transportation headquarters in Washington, D.C., where he worked on various national law enforcement initiatives. He is a life member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), where he is a long-standing member of the Roadway Safety Committee and is also a life member of the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police (NYSACOP) where he serves as Chairman of the Traffic Safety Committee and as a Traffic Safety Outreach Liaison. He also serves on the Committee on Traffic Law Enforcement of the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies and has been recognized by numerous organizations for his work in the areas of law enforcement and event management.

Use of E-Bikes, ATVs, and UTVs – What Can Be Done?

Session 6B, Ballrooms B & C

Description: Common offenses with operators of all-terrain, off-highway vehicles, and e-bikes include speeding, not wearing helmets, unlicensed drivers, lack of registration and insurance, and blatant disregard for the rules of the road. But what are the rules and regulations regarding these vehicles? Who is allowed to drive them and what roads are they allowed on? In this session, learn from law enforcement, legal experts, and advocates about what communities are doing to regulate these vehicles and educate operators on best safety practices.

Presenters:

Ed Brennan, Assistant Director of Bicycle Safety Education, New York Bicycling Coalition
Zackary Quinones, Investigator, Oswego Police Department

Moderator: Scott Earing, Law Enforcement Liaison, NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

Presenter Biographies:

Ed Brennan is the current President of the Albany Bicycle Coalition. He has helped organize numerous group rides in the Capital Region including annual Earth Day Rides and Rides of Silence for Cyclists that Have Been Killed or Seriously Injured. He was a long-time bike commuter. He has been a network engineer and a law librarian. Since his retirement he has been able to devote more time to bike touring around the US.

Investigator Zackary Quinones is assigned to the Oswego Police Department's Neighborhood Engagement Team, where he focuses on narcotics investigations and community-based enforcement initiatives. He has served with the Oswego Police Department for 13 years, bringing experience in patrol operations, firearms instruction, emergency vehicle operations (EVOC), and field training. Investigator Quinones also serves as a certified drone pilot and team leader for Oswego's Tactical Team. In addition to these duties, Investigator Quinones oversees the department's impound lot operations.

Enhancing Transportation Safety through Human-Machine Interface and Connected Vehicle Data Integration

Session 6C, Rooms 2 & 3

Description: This session will delve into the critical aspects of transportation safety by examining the interplay between human-machine interfaces (HMI) and the utilization of connected and automated vehicle (CAV) data. By combining insights from both presentations, this session will provide a holistic view of how human factors and technological innovations can work together to create safer and more efficient transportation systems.

Presentations:

"Trust in Automation: A Driving Simulator Analysis (Broader Impacts, Methodology, and Implementation)" - Kevin Hulme, Program Manager, The Stephen Still Institute for Sustainable Transportation

“Advancing Highway Operational Strategies Through Connected and Automated Vehicle-Driven Data and Safety Performance Measures” – Jingqin (Jannie) Gao, Assistant Director, C2SMARTER Center, New York University

Moderator: Lindsay Tomidy, Monroe County STOP-DWI Coordinator & Office of Traffic Safety Supervisor

Presenter Biographies:

Kevin F. Hulme received his Ph.D. from the University at Buffalo, specializing in multidisciplinary analysis and optimization of complex systems. He serves as the Program Manager for The Stephen Still Institute for Sustainable Transportation and Logistics, and is a principal research scientist for its Transportation Research & Visualization Lab (TRAVL). Dr. Hulme’s current areas of focus include applied modeling and simulation (M&S), simulation science, transportation and vehicle M&S, game-based approaches in engineering education, human factors, and advanced air mobility. Dr. Hulme is a Certified Modeling and Simulation Professional (CMSP).

Dr. Jingqin (Jannie) Gao is a dedicated professional with a passion for transportation with 15 years of experience in this field. As the Assistant Director of Research at the federally funded C2SMARTER University Transportation Center led by New York University Tandon School of Engineering, Dr. Gao has served as Principal Investigator (PI) and Co-PI for various projects funded by the federal government, National Academies, and state and local agencies. Her research has focused on emerging technologies for smart transportation. She is best known for her research on evaluating the safety performance of the U.S.DOT Connected Vehicle Pilot Deployment in New York City, AI-based transportation solutions for smart cities, and parking analysis. Before joining NYU, Dr. Gao worked at the New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT), supporting the agency’s internal planning, technical review processes, and coordinating with external agencies on regional projects. Dr. Gao is named as Who’s Who America in Professional Women in 2023 and is a recipient of the Dr. Louis J. Pignataro Memorial Transportation Education Award by ITE MET section and National Leadership Legacy Award from the WTS-GNY chapter in 2019.

11:20 AM – 12:15 PM
Concurrent Sessions 7

Highway Safety Community Engagements with Special Needs Populations

Session 7A, Ballroom A

Description: This session will explore innovative strategies and resources designed to enhance highway safety community engagements, specifically tailored for special needs populations. This session is ideal for highway safety professionals, community planners, educators, advocates, and anyone involved in public safety and community engagement. Participants will gain insights into effective communication techniques, inclusive planning, and programs to ensure that all community members, regardless of their abilities, have positive engagements with law enforcement.

Presenters:

Conor Treacy, Technical Sergeant, Troop H, Traffic Drug and Alcohol Training, New York State Police

Danielle Podejko, Deputy Sheriff, Onondaga County Sheriff’s Office

Heather Murphy, Program Associate, Institute for Traffic Safety Management & Research at the University at Albany

Moderator: Jiangni Brown, Highway Safety Program Representative, NYS Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee

Presenter Biographies:

Technical Sergeant Conor Treacy is a eight-year veteran of the New York State Police. He is currently assigned to Division Traffic Services as the Impaired Driving Program Coordinator. His responsibilities include programming, coordinating and instructing New York State Police Standardized Field Sobriety Test, Drug Recognition Expert, Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement and drug awareness trainings. In addition, he is responsible for managing grant funding for the entirety of his programming. He is an SFST Instructor a DRE Instructor and Course Manager and a Breath Test Operator Instructor. As a part of his DRE status and his position with the New York State Police, he regularly attends conferences and trainings to keep his knowledge current with regards to trends in his fields of study.

Born in South Korea, Heather Murphy is fluent in both strategic planning and the fine art of making things actually happen. Her superpower is orchestration, whether it’s coordinating the New York State Highway Safety Symposium or teaching a classroom of students from multiple linguistic backgrounds, she turns chaos into choreography. She brings a passionate blend of empathy, organization, and cultural insight to her role as Program Associate at the Institute for Traffic Safety Management &

Research (ITSMR) at the University at Albany. At ITSMR, she is known for her work coordinating statewide conferences and overseeing data collection for the NYS Seat Belt Observational Survey.

Distracted and Impaired Driving: A Personal Perspective

Session 7B, Ballrooms B & C

Description: All too often we see the headlines of a crash that happens and the results of the legal system whether a plea deal or prison time but rarely do we hear about what happens to those left behind. Suicide, fake fundraisers, ambulance chasers, the lengthy court battle. I share our story of what happened to us the day we found out my husband and 5 year old daughter were killed on the NJ Turnpike by a drugged driver and the toll it took on our family.

Presenter:

Pam O'Donnell, Founder, Catch You Later Foundation

Moderator: Rachel Lugo, Division Director, EAC Network

Presenter Biography:

After the deaths of both her husband and daughter in 2016, Pam created the non profit Catch You Later Foundation to spread awareness at high schools, corporate companies, civic organizations. She has become the 1st in New Jersey State History civilian "certified" police academy instructor as well as State Trooper Academy. She is a member of the Governor Highway Safety Association, National Safety Council, Families for Safe Streets and refuses to let her family die in vain or anyone else's family. We can do better!

Emerging Issues in Commercial Vehicle Safety & Enforcement

Session 7C, Rooms 2 & 3

Description: The mission of NYS Department of Transportation Motor Carrier Compliance Bureau is to prevent fatal and serious injury crashes involving commercial motor vehicles. This presentation is a Primer on the state of commercial vehicle safety. It will describe commercial vehicle safety issues that are encountered and countermeasures that have been implemented.

Presenter:

Jonathan Nicastro, Director, Office of Modal Safety & Security and Motor Carrier Compliance Bureau, NYS Department of Transportation

Moderator: Brian DiPalma, Highway Safety Program Representative, NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

Presenter Biography: Jonathan has leadership roles at the State and National level in commercial vehicle and driver safety. As Director of the Motor Carrier Compliance Bureau, he has oversight responsibilities over the Motor Carrier Compliance Bureau. He leads various programs, including the Commercial Vehicle Roadside Inspection Program, Motor Carrier Investigations, FMCSA New Entrant Program, Unified Carrier Registration Program, and Operating Authority Program. Transit Bus Safety Oversight Program, International Chair, CVSA's Operation Safe Driver, and serves on the Board of Director and Active Committee Roles, CVSA. He is the recipient of the 2025 TAT-Truckers Against Trafficking Champion Award.

12:30 –1:30 PM
Hot Lunch Buffet

Alexandria's Ballroom

Hot Lunch Buffet with salads, fruits, and dessert

1:40 – 2:35 PM

Concurrent Sessions 8

What All Drivers Should Know About Motorcycles

Session 8A, Ballroom A

Description: We educate drivers about motorcycle awareness and safety education, complete with county crash statistics. This program satisfies the New York State requirement for driver education classes to discuss motorcycle awareness. Learn how to get this program in your county.

Presenter:

Bruce LePorte, President, Traveling Memorial Wall for Fallen Bikers, Inc.

Moderator: Alan Bell, Senior Research Support Specialist, Institute for Traffic Safety Management & Research

Presenter Biography:

Bruce LePorte is a retired mathematics teacher and President of the Traveling Memorial Wall for Fallen Bikers, Inc., whose purpose is to honor the memories of motorcyclists and educate the public about motorcycle awareness and safety education. He is a member of the Oswego County Traffic Safety Board and the American Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association. His motorcycle awareness and safety education program has been recognized by American Bikers Aimed Toward Education, Oswego County Safety Champions, Hudson Valley Biker Network, and in 2017 was awarded the "Novelli Award" at the New York State Highway Safety Symposium for the impact his program has made in many New York State communities. With funding by the National Highway Safety Administration and a grant from the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee and the New York State Association of Traffic Safety Boards his program has made 862 motorcycle awareness and safety education presentations to 18,933 high school driver education students representing 276 New York schools located in 35 different New York State counties. He has trained additional presenters in Long Island, Corning, and the Hudson Valley. He continues to work to grow his program to include every county in New York State.

An Interactive Sample of Law Enforcement Courses

Session 8B, Ballrooms B & C

Description: Join us for an engaging and interactive preview of law enforcement professional training offered in the State of New York. This session will give law enforcement a unique opportunity to sample content from instructors of the following courses: Practical Guidelines for Motorcycle Enforcement, Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE), NYS E-Transportation, Bicycle & Pedestrian Law & Safety

Presenters:

"Practical Guidelines for Motorcycle Enforcement" - Jason DePaulo, Investigator, Colonie Police Department and Sgt Constantino

"Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE)" - Joseph Alma, Technical Lieutenant, New York State Police

"NYS E-Transportation, Bicycle & Pedestrian Law & Safety" - Ed Brennan, Assistant Director of Bicycle Safety Education, New York Bicycling Coalition (NYBC)

Moderator: Anthony D'Agostino, Law Enforcement Liaison, NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

Presenter Biographies:

Investigator Jason M. DePaulo brings over 26 years of distinguished law enforcement experience to the Town of Colonie Police Department, where he serves in the Traffic Safety Division. With 17 years dedicated to traffic investigation and collision reconstruction, he has become a trusted authority in analyzing complex motor vehicle incidents and promoting roadway safety. For 16 years, he has served as an instructor for the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee (GTSC) Motorcycle Safety & Enforcement Class, helping train officers across New York State in safe and effective motorcycle operations. He is a NHTSA-accredited Subject Matter Expert in Motorcycle Safety. With over 30 years of personal motorcycle riding experience, Investigator DePaulo brings both professional insight and firsthand understanding to his work.

Technical Lieutenant Joseph Alma is a twenty-three year veteran of the New York State Police. He is currently assigned to Division Traffic Services where he is assigned as the Impaired Driving Enforcement Program Administrator. His responsibilities include managing grant funding for the agency's impaired driving related initiatives, overseeing the administration of the DWI Detection & Standardized Field Sobriety Testing curriculum at the New York State Police Academy, and serving as the agency's Drug Recognition Expert Coordinator. He has been certified as an SFST Instructor since 2005, a Drug Recognition Expert since 2009, and a Drug Recognition Expert Instructor since 2010. He has served on the NY Drug Recognition Expert Technical Advisory Panel since 2012 and as the Region #1 Regional DRE Coordinator since 2023. He frequently instructs at Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement classes, Drug Recognition Expert schools, and conducts drug awareness trainings in area school districts.

Ed Brennan is the current President of the Albany Bicycle Coalition. He has helped organize numerous group rides in the Capital Region including annual Earth Day Rides and Rides of Silence for Cyclists that Have Been Killed or Seriously Injured. He was a long-time bike commuter. He has been a network engineer and a law librarian. Since his retirement he has been able to devote more time to bike touring around the US.

Micro-modal, multi-agent extended reality simulation to improve safety with connected automated vehicles (CAVs)

Session 8C, Rooms 2 & 3 (Note: This presentation ends at 2:10 PM)

Description: Connected and automated vehicle (CAV) technologies can be leveraged to enhance safety, mobility, and sustainability. Two of the main challenges for large-scale deployment of CAV technologies are: a) certifying safety in dynamic scenarios involving humans and b) integrating vulnerable micro-modalities into the CAV network. Although significant research efforts have been dedicated to solving these problems, the majority of research results have only been tested in simulations with limited open datasets. Physical testing facilities, access to which is even more limited, typically rely on human and synthetic actor interactions and rarely include multiple humans within the same environment or scenario. MCity at the University of Michigan is the world's first controlled environment specifically designed to test and validate CAV technologies. Its recently announced testing capability of extended reality (XR), which bridges virtual testing and physical testing, creates new opportunities for CAV environment and scenario development, verification, and validation. SUNY University at Buffalo was awarded access to MCity resources including a virtual "digital twin" of their testing facility, embedded naturalistic traffic simulation, and XR physical testing capabilities. We aim to expand the existing virtual and physical testing infrastructure capabilities of MCity by integrating human-in-the-loop, multi-modal simulators including vulnerable micro-modalities (e.g., pedestrian, bicycle) to develop safe and realistic testing environments for dynamic CAV and human interactions. Additionally, we will conduct multi-agent testing and verify CAV operations, including real-time dynamic interactions between human-operated vehicles and micro-modalities with CAVs. Upon establishing these novel capabilities, we will investigate both CAV algorithms design & validation, and human behavior modeling. We will examine a variety of egress scenarios in safety-critical cases, including both human-driver versus CAV interaction and CAV-pedestrian interaction.

Presenter:

Kevin Hulme, Program Manager, The Stephen Still Institute for Sustainable Transportation

Moderator: Lauren Savino, Program Educator, Orange County STOP-DWI

Presenter Biography:

Kevin F. Hulme received his Ph.D. from the University at Buffalo, specializing in multidisciplinary analysis and optimization of complex systems. He serves as the Program Manager for The Stephen Still Institute for Sustainable Transportation and Logistics, and is a principal research scientist for its Transportation Research & Visualization Lab (TRAVL). Dr. Hulme's current areas of focus include applied modeling and simulation (M&S), simulation science, transportation and vehicle M&S, game-based approaches in engineering education, human factors, and advanced air mobility. Dr. Hulme is a Certified Modeling and Simulation Professional (CMSP).

2:25 –2:50 PM

Salty Treat Break with Exhibitors

2:50 – 4:10 PM

Special Concurrent Sessions 9

State of New Jersey vs. Olenowski: The DRE from Roadside to the NJ Supreme Court

Session 9A, Ballroom A

Description: This presentation will explore the legal trajectory of *New Jersey v. Olenowski*, tracing its path and culminating in its landmark consideration by the New Jersey Supreme Court. Attendees will gain insight into the pivotal legal questions raised in the case, particularly surrounding the admissibility and reliability of Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) testimony in impaired driving prosecutions. In addition to the case overview, the presentation will provide a comprehensive breakdown of the standardized 12-step DRE evaluation process used by law enforcement to assess drug impairment. This session is designed for legal professionals, law enforcement, and forensic experts.

Presenter: Erik Daab, Assistant Attorney General, Deputy Director, New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Moderator: Bethany Solek, Assistant District Attorney, Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor, Erie County

Presenter Biography:

Assistant Attorney General Erik Daab is the Deputy Director of the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice overseeing the State's Trial and Complex Litigation Bureau. He was previously Chief of the Specialized Crimes Bureau, where he oversaw several investigative units including the Casino Crimes Unit, the Atlantic City Violent Crime Task Force, and the Auto Theft Task Force. Prior to that, he was Deputy Chief of the Gangs and Organized Crime Bureau, where he prosecuted large-scale narcotics and weapons trafficking cases. He previously served in the Appellate Bureau, Corruption Bureau, and as Chief of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. Erik started his career working on death penalty cases for the Tennessee Office of the Attorney General and was the State Witness for the execution of the first inmate executed in Tennessee in forty years.

Show, Tell, and Connect: Diverse Stakeholder Collaborations

Session 9B, Ballrooms B & C

Description: In this engaging panel session, traffic safety professionals from diverse communities and funding backgrounds—ranging from fine-based models to state and traffic safety grants—will showcase their most creative and impactful programming. Through moderated questions, panelists will share how their programs began, how they secured funding, what staffing and partnerships look like, and the barriers they've overcome along the way. They'll also reflect on the support they received during the funding application process. After each panelist speaks, interactive discussion will invite attendees to consider how these innovative ideas could translate to their own communities—regardless of size, budget, or structure. Come ready to be inspired, ask questions, and leave with practical strategies you can adapt and apply.

Presentations:

Seneca County - Karen Burcroff, Seneca County Substance Abuse Coalition, United Way of Seneca County and Sarah Smolinski, Seneca County Substance Abuse Coalition, United Way of Seneca County

Allegany County - Jessica McKnight, STOP DWI Law Enforcement & Community Outreach Liaison/ Probation Supervisor, Allegany County Probation Department, Lt. Tim Hand, Allegany County Sheriff's Office, and Scott Lanphier, CEO/ COO, Medical Transport Services

Monroe County Bus Patrol Program -Kristina Daugherty, Central Police Services Administrator, Monroe County Department of Public Safety

Moderator: Pamela Aini, Administrator, NYS STOP-DWI Association, Inc.

Friday, October 17, 2025

8:30 – 9:25 AM Plenary Presentation
The Good, The Bad, The Unfunded: Are We On The Same Page?

Description: Does your agency receive Highway Safety funding from GTSC? Do you plan to apply for funding next year? If you answered Yes, then you do not want to miss this session! This session will go over the 3 key documents that are required by NHTSA: The Highway Safety Plan, Annual Grant Application, and Annual Report. It is critical for grantees to understand these documents and NYS DMV's plan to improve highway safety in New York. Future grant applications must align with these visions and goals. Projects that do not support them will not be funded. **Don't Lose Your Funding!!!** This is your opportunity to ensure that you are familiar with these 3 key documents and that your agency's grant activities align with NYS DMV's mission.

Presenters:

Justin O'Connor, Director, NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee
Jerry Miller, Director, Institute for Traffic Safety Management & Research

Introduction by Mary Tanner-Richter, Deputy Commissioner for Traffic Safety & Investigations, NYS Department of Motor Vehicles

Presenter Biographies:

Justin O'Connor has served as the Director of the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee since 2022. Prior to joining GTSC, Justin has held multiple positions within the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles including Director of Technical Services and Clean Air, Director of Driver Licensing Support, and various Fiscal and Administration roles. Justin has an MBA from the College of Saint Rose in Albany, New York; he also enjoys quality time with his son and live music.

Jerry Miller is the Executive Director of the Institute for Traffic Safety Management & Research, University at Albany SUNY. He has been with the Institute for 9 years. Prior to joining the Institute, Jerry worked for the State of New York for 15 years in various capacities which included 11 years at the NYS Division of Criminal Justice, Office of Public Safety. Jerry also worked within the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee where he oversaw the State's impaired driving programs and was the State Coordinator of the Drug Evaluation and Classification Program. Jerry began his professional career as a Police Officer from 1993 - 2001 in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. His education consists of a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Public Administration.

9:25 – 9:35 AM
Grab n' Go Snack

Riverside Reception Room

Stop by and pick up granola bars, muffins & pastries, and fruit as you fuel up for the last few sessions!

9:35 – 10:30 AM
Concurrent Sessions 10

MADD's Underage Substance Use Programming

Session 10A, Ballroom A

Description: Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)'s Underage Substance Use Programs work together to prevent and reduce underage drinking and other substance use. By joining our session, you will learn about the following: Power of ME!

Program offered to 4th and 5th graders to educate the onset of underage drinking which happens on average before children enter middle school, Power of You(th): offered to Middle & High School students to help educate teens on the preventable dangers while in school, out of school, and behind the wheel, and helps teens become the leaders who make it “OK” to say “no” to alcohol and other drugs, Promposal offered to Juniors and Seniors with reminders on the preventable dangers to ensure a safe prom experience, and Power of Parents which educates parents and caregivers on the importance of conversation which starts right within the home. Audiences will also learn how these programs can be offered to their local communities free of charge by MADD staff or be educated on how they can be trained in our programs as an official MADD Volunteer.

Presenter: Cara Rosebeck, Program Manager, MADD New York (Mothers Against Drunk Driving)

Moderator: Lonni Carroll, NYS CPSB State Chair & Region 3 Coordinator, Livingston Co. Sheriff's Office

Presenter Biography:

Cara Rosebeck is the Program Manager for Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) New York Albany Affiliate Office. Cara joined MADD just over two years ago and now covers over 20 counties, from Franklin County NY to Putnam County NY. She has over 13 years of professional teaching experience in the Childhood and Special Education field, and has held multiple roles involving classroom, behavioral and Therapeutic Crisis Intervention support. Before joining MADD, Cara worked with at-risk youth and adults within various environments and assisted teens and adults in addiction and psychiatric care centers. Cara graduated with a dual Master's in Childhood and Special Education, and Literacy, from the College of Saint Rose in Albany, New York. Cara also serves as a member of MADD's Underage Drinking Advisory Board.

Small Streets, Big Lessons: Advancing Youth Education Through Traffic Safety Villages & Gardens

Session 10B, Ballrooms B & C

Description: Discover how traffic safety villages—miniature, realistic street environments—are transforming youth safety education. This session highlights new innovations that make these spaces more engaging, inclusive, and effective, as well as ways Safe Routes to School grants have provided new advancements for it to be easier for you as the educator. Learn how hands-on experiences in these “kid-sized towns” help children understand real-world traffic rules, build safe habits, and connect classroom learning to everyday life.

Presenter:

Lindsay Tomidy, Monroe County STOP-DWI Coordinator & Office of Traffic Safety Supervisor

Moderator: Rachel Lugo, Division Director, EAC Network

Presenter Biography:

In Monroe County, NY Lindsay Tomidy wears many hats as the STOP-DWI Coordinator, Office of Traffic Safety Supervisor and Executive Secretary for the Traffic Safety Board, along with various coalitions and committee work those roles bring. She is also the chair of the STOP-DWI Association board representing New York State Coordinators. While she has found herself truly at home in the world of public safety, public service and community engagement, she made this career leap after 11 years in media sales and marketing strategy throughout the Rochester region. That experience molded her into a strategic and analytical thinker, talented in creating community awareness and understanding across diverse audiences. At the age of 13, she was left as an only child when her teenage brother made the unfortunate choice to drive drunk. Despite the difficulties of this trauma and grief over her lifetime, she uses that tragedy to drive her passion and use her talents and time to make our region a better place. She will continue to work tirelessly towards making all road users feel safer in their own communities. She will continue in making families feel supported in their grief through board membership with Dreams from Drake, and she will continue to make sure important safety messages are heard with efficient marketing strategies for anyone she can help!

10:40 – 11:35 AM

Concurrent Sessions 11

Utilizing CLEAR for Safety Analysis: A Case Study Approach

Session 11 A, Ballroom A

Description: CLEAR (Crash Location and Engineering Analysis Repository) is the state's Safety Management Information System, designed for government employees and consultants working on government projects. In this presentation, I will demonstrate how to use CLEAR to conduct a safety analysis through a detailed case study. After the presentation, I will be available to answer any questions you may have about CLEAR.

Presenter:

Robert Zitowsky, Senior Transportation Analyst, NYS Department of Transportation, Office of Traffic Safety and Mobility

Moderator: Margaret Beers, Chair, New York State Traffic Safety Program

Presenter Biography:

Robert Zitowsky is a Senior Transportation Analyst at the NYS Department of Transportation in the Office of Traffic Safety and Mobility. His work involves identifying trends, evaluating risk factors, and providing actionable insights that inform policy decisions and safety improvements.

A Toolbox of Traffic Calming Measures

Session 11B, Ballrooms B & C

Description: In this session, we will explore a range of traffic calming measures designed to enhance road safety, reduce vehicle speeds, and improve the quality of life in urban and residential areas.

Presentations:

“Neighborhood Traffic Calming and the City of Syracuse’s Approach to Connecting Neighborhoods: Effective Tools to Reduce Speeds in Neighborhoods” – Tim Faulkner, Senior Transportation Manager, Fisher Associates

“Implementing 25 MPH in Your Community”- Henry Litsky, Policy & Advocacy Coordinator, Reconnect Rochester and Ed Brennan, Assistant Director of Bicycle Safety Education, New York Bicycling Coalition (NYBC)

Moderator: Lauren Savino, Program Educator, Orange County STOP-DWI

Presenter Biographies:

Tim Faulkner has 39 years of experience in the transportation engineering and planning fields. After graduating from Clarkson University, he worked for HNTB in Boston where he worked on the two premier projects in the state; the Central Artery/Third Harbor Tunnel Project, also known as the “Big Dig”, and the New Route 146/US Route 20 Interchange with the Massachusetts Turnpike. After 8 years in Boston, he moved back to his hometown of Syracuse and worked for the local MPO for 4 years. He then worked for CHA, Inc. for 18 years managing traffic engineering and transportation planning projects throughout the east coast and Midwest. The past 8 years he has been a Sr. Transportation Manager for Fisher Associates overseeing their Syracuse office and their traffic engineering group and managing variety of transportation projects throughout New York and Pennsylvania.

Henry Litsky is Reconnect Rochester’s Policy and Advocacy Coordinator. He coordinates Reconnect Rochester’s growing advocacy activities and community mobilization efforts. This includes tracking legislative policy, maintaining our Monroe County Crash Map and Upcoming Street Projects Map, and educating community leaders to boldly advocate for a transportation system that provides mobility options and resource access for everyone through our Mobility Action Alerts. He graduated from the University of Rochester after completing an e5 tuition free fifth year focusing on transportation at UR and City of Rochester. He helped to co-found the Students for Equitable Transportation club and frequently attended public

meetings and submitted comments on proposed street design changes. Reconnect's Mobility Action Alerts allowed him to put what he was learning into action to try and make our streets safer.

Ed Brennan is the current President of the Albany Bicycle Coalition. He has helped organize numerous group rides in the Capital Region including annual Earth Day Rides and Rides of Silence for Cyclists that Have Been Killed or Seriously Injured. He was a long-time bike commuter. He has been a network engineer and a law librarian. Since his retirement he has been able to devote more time to bike touring around the US.

Benefits of Non-intrusive Detection at Traffic Signals

Session 11C, Rooms 2 & 3

Description: In 2022, New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) started prioritizing the use of non-intrusive detection (i.e. video, radar, etc.) at traffic signals over conventional in-pavement detection like loops. Since then, NYSDOT has installed non-intrusive detection at over 1,000 intersections. Non-intrusive detection has many benefits such as worker safety, remote connectivity, flexibility, operational efficiency, on-demand data collection, corridor analytics, and advanced safety settings. This presentation will provide an overview of the benefits of non-intrusive detection, some case-study examples of safety and operational improvements at deployed locations, as well as “lessons learned” and maintenance considerations.

Presenters:

Christina Doughney, Professional Engineer 2, NYS Department of Transportation

Jacob Olds, Professional Engineer 1, NYS Department of Transportation

Moderator: Brian DiPalma, Highway Safety Program Representative, NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

Presenter Biographies:

Christina Doughney, P.E., PTOE, has over 20 years of professional experience and specializes in traffic engineering at the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT). She currently works in the Main Office's Traffic Safety & Mobility Office, Transportation Systems Management & Operations (TSMO) Bureau where she provides engineering support for the traffic signal and ITS programs. Prior to working with NYSDOT, she was a Senior Traffic Engineer with CHA Consulting, Inc. for 14 years. Christina earned a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and she is a licensed Professional Engineer in New York State and a Professional Traffic Operations Engineer (PTOE).

Jacob Olds, P.E., has over 10 years of experience working in New York State Department of Transportation's (NYSDOT) Traffic Safety and Mobility Group. He currently works in the Safety Unit, as well as serving the role as Studies Unit Leader whereby safety analysis is performed to identify and potentially correct safety deficiencies on the public roadway system. In addition to this he has been integrated within the Traffic Signals group for over 8 years performing signal optimizations, investigations, and traffic signal design review. Jacob earned a B.S. in Civil Engineering Technology from State University of New York Polytech Institute (SUNY POLY), and he is a licensed Professional Engineer in New York State.