

Greater Hartford Coalition Newsletter

FROM THE EDITOR

The June newsletter discusses the importance of working together to insure the safety of responders and motorists during these uncertain times. These past 6 months have been a trying time especially for our EMS, law enforcement and fire departments that are responding to traffic crashes.

Our country is facing an unprecedented crisis in public health due to the pandemic. The measures we take at the scene of a crash are critical for the well being and safety of all.



Photo Courtesy of ABC News

Police see uptick in speeding, fatal crashes amid pandemic

On May 19, 2020, Connecticut State Police Trooper Jose Dorelus told ABC News' Transportation Correspondent Gio Benitez on Monday that traffic is down over 50 percent, but fatal motor vehicle deaths have gone up over 40 percent amid the pandemic. State Police Trooper Jose Dorelus said they have seen a 90% increase in cars going over 15 miles above the speed limit during the coronavirus pandemic. "We're finding that with the open roads, certain individuals are taking this as an opportunity to push their vehicles to the limit."

While officers try to crack down on speeding, they are also taking extra safety precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Dorelus said that in Connecticut they are now wearing masks for the duration of the traffic stops, utilizing plastic bags to take the documents of drivers and taking pictures of documents when possible.



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RESPONDER SAFETY - PROMPT, RELIABLE, INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS - SAFE, QUICK CLEARANCE



REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES ASSISTING OTHERS


April 22, 2020 –

Corey John Iodice, 58, operator for Iodice Family Transport, was struck and killed while assisting a motorist on Route 15 in Trumbull. While Iodice was loading a disabled vehicle onto the tow truck, a vehicle driving in the right lane, “lost control for unknown reasons,” and hit the disabled vehicle and another vehicle that was on scene to pick up the driver of disabled vehicle.

The vehicle then continued “up the bed” of the tow truck and hit Iodice, “who was standing adjacent to the flat bed portion of the tow truck,” the state police report said. The vehicle then rolled on its roof and came to a rest on the right shoulder of the highway. Medics pronounced Corey Iodice dead at the crash site, State Police said.



Photo Courtesy of Iodice Family Transport

 **Fairfield Fire Department** is 😞 feeling sad. April 23 · 🌐

Today we send our thoughts and prayers to the family of the tow truck operator, our friend, who was killed while working on the Merritt Parkway yesterday in Trumbull.

Interstate 95 and the Merritt are two of the most dangerous places we operate at emergency scenes and we remind everyone that Connecticut STATE LAW states that when approaching a scene a driver must slow down and move over one complete travel lane. IF you are unable to move over you shall slow down to a safe speed until you are clear of the emergency scene.

We know everyone wants to get where they are going but the Tow Operators, Firefighters, Police Officers, Ambulance personnel, and road crews all want to get home to our families at the end of our day.

PLEASE... Slow down and MOVE OVER!!

[Fairfield Police Department - Connecticut AMR Bridgeport, CT Town of Fairfield, CT Connecticut State Police - Troop G](#)



Photo courtesy of Iodice Family Transport

Under Connecticut law, all motorists when approaching an emergency vehicle (Emergency Vehicle’s Include Tow Trucks and DOT along with Police, Fire and EMS) are required to 1st Slow Down and 2nd if possible Safely Move Over one lane.

Tow Truck Operator’s have the 2nd highest fatality rate of workers killed on the highway with approximately 1 killed every 6 days throughout the country.



SLOW DOWN AND MOVE OVER FOR ALL EMERGENCY VEHICLES REGARDLESS OF THE LIGHT COLOR

Every day, tow operators and other responders risk their lives to assist those in need. Using social media platforms to raise awareness is one way to reach a larger audience. The Move Over Slow Down campaign is promoted through Facebook across the country. Two Facebook pages dedicated to promoting the **Move Over Slow Down** campaigns in Connecticut are very active and links are included below.



<https://www.facebook.com/MoveOverCT/>



<https://www.facebook.com/SDMOFEV/>



TIM TRAINING INFORMATION

An important message from the University of Connecticut's CT Training and Technical Assistance Center (T2) Safety Circuit Rider Program Manager, Melissa Evans.

"The Safety Academy plans on offering in the Fall (2020), an in-person Traffic Incident Management (TIM) training course, which is a hot topic and one we hope will be well-attended!

In the meantime, we are excited to share another virtual opportunity to earn Safety Academy credits. If you, or your employee, complete the online National Highway Institute (NHI) Traffic Incident Management training, you will receive 4 hours of Safety Academy credit. All you need to do is the following:

1. Register and participate in all training modules and complete the testing requirement to receive your certificate.
2. Send Mary McCarthy an email at Mary.C.McCarthy@uconn.edu to let her know you have completed the training and that you are requesting Safety Academy credit and it will be provided! It's that easy. (You will need to print your certificate of completion from NHI).

An overview of the training and the registration instructions for the National Highway Institute (NHI)

NHI provides a free online version of the National TIM Responder Training course. The course includes an overview and nine lessons and takes approximately four hours to complete. The lessons are narrated and include knowledge check questions. To receive a completion certificate, students are required to score 70% or higher on the 20-question final exam. Students are also prompted to complete a course evaluation prior to being able to print their course certificate. NOTE: You must create a NHI account to register for this free course.

1. Register for an NHI account: <https://www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov/> Start by clicking 'Create an Account' under the New Users header on the left of the home page, or click 'Login' at the top of the home page and then complete the information for a new user.
2. Search for course 133126A and add it to your cart.
3. Proceed to Checkout, review shopping cart, confirm e-mail address, and receive confirmation. The course can now be accessed by clicking 'My Training' at the top of the page.

4. Launch the course and start by providing some simple registration information, then complete the overview and all nine lessons. Users will have six months to complete the course before their registration expires.
5. Pass the final exam
6. Return to the My Training page and take the course evaluation.
7. Print/download your course completion certificate attached – please refer to the highlighted section.

“This is just a small way we can continue to help you during this challenging time. Do not hesitate to contact me to discuss any of your road safety needs.”

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RESPONDER SAFETY LEARNING NETWORK RELEASES RESOURCE RELATING MODULES TO NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (NFPA) JOB PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

Responder Safety Learning Network (RSLN) has released a new resource for professionals who take RSLN online training modules. This resource correlates Responder Safety modules to Job Performance Requirements (JPRs) in key NFPA professional qualifications standards: [*NFPA 1001: Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications*](#); [*NFPA 1021: Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications*](#); [*NFPA 1091: Standard for Traffic Incident Management Personnel Professional Qualifications*](#); and [*NFPA 1500: Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety, Health, and Wellness Program*](#). Using these correlations will help emergency responders plan and execute their professional development in roadway response safety and traffic incident management using Responder Safety modules to address specific requirements for their job.

The correlations cover the roadway response safety and traffic incident management responsibilities firefighter, fire officer, and traffic incident management professionals, in addition to the responsibilities of departments under their health and wellness program. For example, NFPA 1001 Fire Fighter I JPR 4.3.3 requires that firefighters know how to establish and operate in work areas at emergency scenes, including wearing proper PPE, establishing a protected work area using traffic control devices, and working only in that protected area. RSLN has 25 modules touching on how to perform various aspects of this requirement, including Advance Warning, Blocking Procedures at Roadway Incidents, Move It or Work It, Safe Fire Service Traffic Control Practices, Safe Operations for Vehicle Fires, and Termination.



Newly Renovated CTDOT Newington Highway Operations Center is Nearing Completion.

A project to expand and renovate the Newington Operations Center located at the CTDOT Headquarters on the Berlin Turnpike in Newington is on track to be fully operational the week of June 22. The existing center located in the same building remained operational during the project.

Newington is one of two operations centers managed by the CTDOT Bureau of Highway Operations. The other center is located in Bridgeport within the State Police Troop G barracks. Both centers are responsible for performing Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) functions for CTDOT, including operation of advanced traffic management systems and advanced traveler information systems, and coordination of CTDOT response to traffic incidents and other activities that require 24/7 response.