Motorcycle Safety Program Assessments

2015 Lifesavers Conference

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What is a state motorcycle safety program assessment?

- An independent review of a state’s motorcycle safety efforts
- NHTSA facilitates the assessment
- A panel of subject matter experts assess the state’s efforts based on information it provides
- Cooperative and collaborative effort

Assessment Objectives

- Document the state’s motorcycle safety efforts - Status
- Identify strengths and accomplishments
- Note possible improvements and opportunities
- Produce a report that the state can use for planning
Motorcycle Safety Program Assessments

Assessment is based on NHTSA’s Highway Safety Guideline No. 3 - Motorcycle Safety
- Program Management
- Personal Protective Gear
- Operator Licensing
- Rider Education and Training
- Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs
- Legislation and Regulations
- Law Enforcement
- Highway Engineering
- Rider Conspicuity and Motorist Awareness
- Communication Program
- Program Evaluation and Data

Motorcycle Safety Program Assessments

Four phases of an assessment
- Planning and scheduling – NHTSA and state
- Documenting the motorcycle safety effort – state prepares briefing materials for assessment team
- Assessment team interviews – two and half days of interviews
- Report out – findings and recommendations and final report

Motorcycle Safety Program Assessments

Assessment schedule
- Sunday – Assessment team arrives and “meet and greet” with state representatives
- Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday – Interviews with state agencies and organizations
- Thursday – Assessment team finalizes the report and identifies major recommendations
- Friday – Report out in the morning
Motorcycle Safety Program Assessments

Motorcycle Safety Assessments started in 1995
25 states have completed assessments

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Six states have completed more than one assessment
- Ohio (2)
- Wisconsin (2)
- Florida (3)
- Indiana (2)
- Missouri (2)
- Colorado (2)

Summary of Assessment Recommendations

Program Management
- Responsible (lead) agency and person
- Data
- Problem identification – “what needs fixed”
- Partners – the right agencies, organizations and people
- Cooperation, collaboration, commitment and contribution
- Funding sources
- Multi-year plan (three to five years)
- Measurement and evaluation
### Summary of Assessment Recommendations

**Personal Protective Equipment**
- Helmet usage and universal helmet law
- Education and awareness campaigns for ALL protective equipment
- Data collection (use and injuries)
- Effective observational studies
- Enforce laws
- Integrate into state’s Occupant Protection efforts

**Operator Licensing**
- Data collection
- Instructional permit restrictions and expiration
- Enforce laws
- Encourage proper licensing
- Review, revise and update MOM
- Evaluate testing process – standardized and effective
- Evaluate rider training licensing waiver program
- Monitoring and auditing all license testing

**Rider Education and Training**
- Adopt Model National Standards
- Define the purpose of rider education and training
- Data collection and monitoring
- Address state issues and needs
- Determine what education and training is needed
- Use technology and variety of delivery systems
- Evaluate effectiveness and value
- Evaluate the need and use of dedicated funding
### Summary of Assessment Recommendations

**Under the Influence of Alcohol and Other Drugs**
- Integrate into state impaired driving campaigns
- Detection, enforcement and adjudication
- Data collection
- Emphasize in rider education and training
- Clear and continuous messaging
- Partners
- Enforce laws
- Evaluation

### Summary of Assessment Recommendations

**Legislation and Regulations**
- Reviewed and revised periodically
- Helmet law
- Instructional permit expiration and restrictions
- Three wheeled motorcycles and other vehicles

### Summary of Assessment Recommendations

**Law Enforcement**
- Involved and contributing partners
- Enforce laws – unlicensed operators, impaired operation, speed
- Training – DWI detection, crash reporting and investigation, roadside stops
- High visibility enforcement
- Data collection – enforcement, citations and adjudication
- Use in outreach and public awareness efforts
- Liaison with motorcycle organizations
- Funding for projects
Summary of Assessment Recommendations

Highway Engineering
- Share data
- Involved and contributing partners
- Roadway design, repair, maintenance, signage, barriers and guard rails
- Training
- Identify and publish unique and state specific roadway conditions

Summary of Assessment Recommendations

Rider Conspicuity and Motorist Awareness
- Data collection – rider and motorist surveys
- Problem identification and prioritization
- Evaluate efforts
- Identify the target audience based on data and fact
- Communication, cooperation and courtesy – yielding right of way
- Educate the rider
- Targeted campaigns based on data

Summary of Assessment Recommendations

Communication Program
- Formal, documented multi-year plan
- Data driven
- Clear and focused messaging
- Involved and contributing partners
- Variety of media and approaches
- Evaluate
Summary of Assessment Recommendations

Evaluation and Data
- Identify data sources and create model – integrate and link data
- Problem identification
- State specific research
- Evaluate all countermeasures, strategies or projects
- Create realistic evaluation protocols and procedures
- Analyze and interpret data
- Publish findings

SMSA Self-Assessment Tool

SMSA Motorcycle Safety Self-Assessment
- Based on NHTSA Assessments
- Designed to:
  - Prepare for a NHTSA Assessment
  - Conduct periodic assessments of motorcycle safety efforts
  - Gather partner feedback
- Electronic, fillable form
- Available on SMSA’s website www.smsa.org

Self Assessment Tool
Self Assessment Tool

National Association of State Motorcycle Safety Administrators (SMSA)

The SMSA is a nonprofit organization that provides leadership for state administered motorcycle safety programs by:

- Encouraging comprehensive programs
- Encouraging data collection, sharing and research
- Promoting effective management practices
- Identifying proven best practices
- Fostering communication, collaboration and partnerships
- Providing guidance on adoption and administration of policy and standards
- Influencing national policy and standards

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