



MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee Meeting March 18, 2009

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee (MCSAC) met on March 18, 2009, at the Department of Transportation's Media Center in Washington, DC. In accordance with the provisions of Public Law 92-463, the meeting was opened to the public. Mr. Larry Minor served as the FMCSA Designated Federal Official (DFO) and called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. The following individuals attended the meeting:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

John Bauer, Director of Global Transportation, Starbucks Coffee Company
Clyde Hart, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, American Bus Association
Scott Hernandez, Lieutenant Colonel, Colorado State Patrol
Michael Irwin, Director, Michigan Center for Truck Safety
David Osiecki, Vice President for Safety, Security and Operations, American Trucking Associations
Stephen Owings, President, Road Safe America
David Parker, Senior Legal Counsel, Great West Casualty Company
Robert Petrancosta, Vice President of Safety, Con Way Freight
Robert "RC" Powell, Master Trooper, Virginia State Police
Robert Powers, Captain, Michigan State Police
Lester Sokolowski, Director of Division Services, National Safety Council
J. Todd Spencer, Executive Vice President, Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association
Judith Stone, President/Executive Director, Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety

FMCSA REPRESENTATIVES:

Jesse Fonner, Program Specialist, Strategic Planning and Program Evaluation Division
David Goettee, Office of Research and Information Technology
Gary Middleton, Management and Program Analyst, Strategic Planning and Program Evaluation Division
Jeffrey Miller, Chief, Strategic Planning and Program Evaluation Division
Larry Minor, Associate Administrator for Policy and Program Development
William Quade, Acting Chief Safety Officer, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
David Tochen, Acting Chief Counsel, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
Shannon Watson, Senior Liaison, Strategic Planning and Program Evaluation Division

OTHERS PRESENT FOR ALL OR PORTIONS OF THE MEETING WERE:

Steven Blust, Institute of International Containment Lessors
Barbara Czech, NTSB
Mirna Gustave, Chenega Advanced Solutions and Engineering
Eric Ickes, Arizona Department of Public Safety
Al Menezes, DRC
Dan Meyer, Kansas Highway Patrol
Julie Perrot, NTSB
Alan Potter, Booz Allen Hamilton



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Georgia Schull, ICF International
Ryan Thompson, ICF International
Joan Tilghman, ICF International
Elizabeth Turner, Volpe National Transportation Systems Center

REVIEW OF AGENDA: The Committee reviewed the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Committee approved the minutes from the December 10, 2008, public meeting and the January 6, 2009, conference call.

WORKGROUP REPORTS : Workgroup 09-01 (Developing a National Agenda for Motor Carrier Safety): The workgroup presented 15 recommendations for the Administrator to include in a National Agenda for Motor Carrier Safety:

Enforcement Recommendations:

Short term recommendations

- Effective Enforcement (enhance enforcement actions)
- Biennial Update (enforce biennial update of the MCS-150)
- Detecting "Chameleon Carriers"
- Driver Information Resource (for industry)
- Early Interventions
- Establish a Safety Rating System for Intrastate Carriers
- Grant Process (improve timeliness of awarding grants and streamline process)

Long term recommendations:

- Revise MCS-150 Requirements
- Expand TACT (Ticketing Aggressive Cars and Trucks)
- Add "Distracted Driving" to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations
- Driver Fatigue (explore options to detect driver fatigue at the roadside)
- Sleep Disorders

Safety Technologies:

Short term recommendations:

- Vehicle Infrastructure Integration system

Long term recommendations:

- Roadside Technologies
- Wireless roadside
- In-vehicle Technology
- CMV Crashworthiness

Education and Outreach:

Short term recommendations:

- Law Enforcement Officer Education
- Improve Website
- Driver Hotline

Long term recommendations:

- Lack of standardization (increase and improve training for drivers in the areas of compliance, skill and performance)
- National Awareness Campaigns
- Graduated CDLs (explore the feasibility of implementing a graduated CDL program)
- Use of Prescription and Over-the-Counter Drugs



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Research

- Baseline study to illuminate current safety culture and knowledge of FMCSA
- Study of uniform CMV definition
- Study to investigate how to improve the quality of data including driver/carrier transparency, sharing of data, etc.
- Synthesis study on shipper, broker and other industry responsibilities and incentives
- Study on distracted driving, focusing on what causes distracted driving
- Synthesis study on safety of retreaded, recapped, and re-grooved tires on commercial motor vehicles

Two recommendations were tabled for further discussion at upcoming meetings (study of roles and responsibilities of agencies related to motor carrier security and pre-operating authority). Two recommendations had annotations identifying concerns from Ms. Stone and Mr. Spencer (offering tax credits to carriers for utilizing safety technology and carriers implementing safety technologies in lieu of fines). The 09-01 report was unanimously adopted pending the above changes to the report.

TASKING: The Committee unanimously accepted Task 09-02: "Provide advice and guidance to FMCSA on the essential elements that the Agency should include when drafting new proposed legislation to permit Mexico-domiciled trucks beyond the current commercial zones along the U.S.-Mexico border."

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: The public comment period was scheduled for 3:00 pm; however, no member of the public signed up to provide comments.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by the DFO at 3:15 pm on March 18, 2009.

CERTIFICATION

The minutes were approved by the MCSAC on //May 20, 2009//.

We hereby certify that, to the best of our knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.

____//signed//____

David R. Parker
Chair
Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee

____//signed//____

Larry W. Minor
Designated Federal Official
Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee