

# TICKETING AGGRESSIVE CARS AND TRUCKS

# TACT Quarterly e-Update

*A High-Visibility Traffic Enforcement Program*

Volume 1, Issue 1 January 2008

## Letter from the Administrator

Welcome to the first issue of the TACT Quarterly e-Update. The focus of this newsletter will be to share ideas and information on TACT activities taking place around the country. The content will be especially valuable to States that are in the process of starting up their own TACT programs.

Since the State of Washington successfully pioneered TACT in 2005, three additional states—Georgia, Kentucky, and North Carolina—have conducted similar high-visibility traffic enforcement programs. Many more States will be participating soon.



We have also built a dedicated Web site—[www.fmcsa.dot.gov/tact](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/tact)—to provide grant and funding information, planning guides, implementation strategies and tips, as well as evaluation tools. If you have a question or would like to make a suggestion, please contact us through the comments section.

As a longtime former member of the Indiana State Police, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division, I recognize the difficult challenge of changing unsafe driving behavior. I am convinced that TACT is an

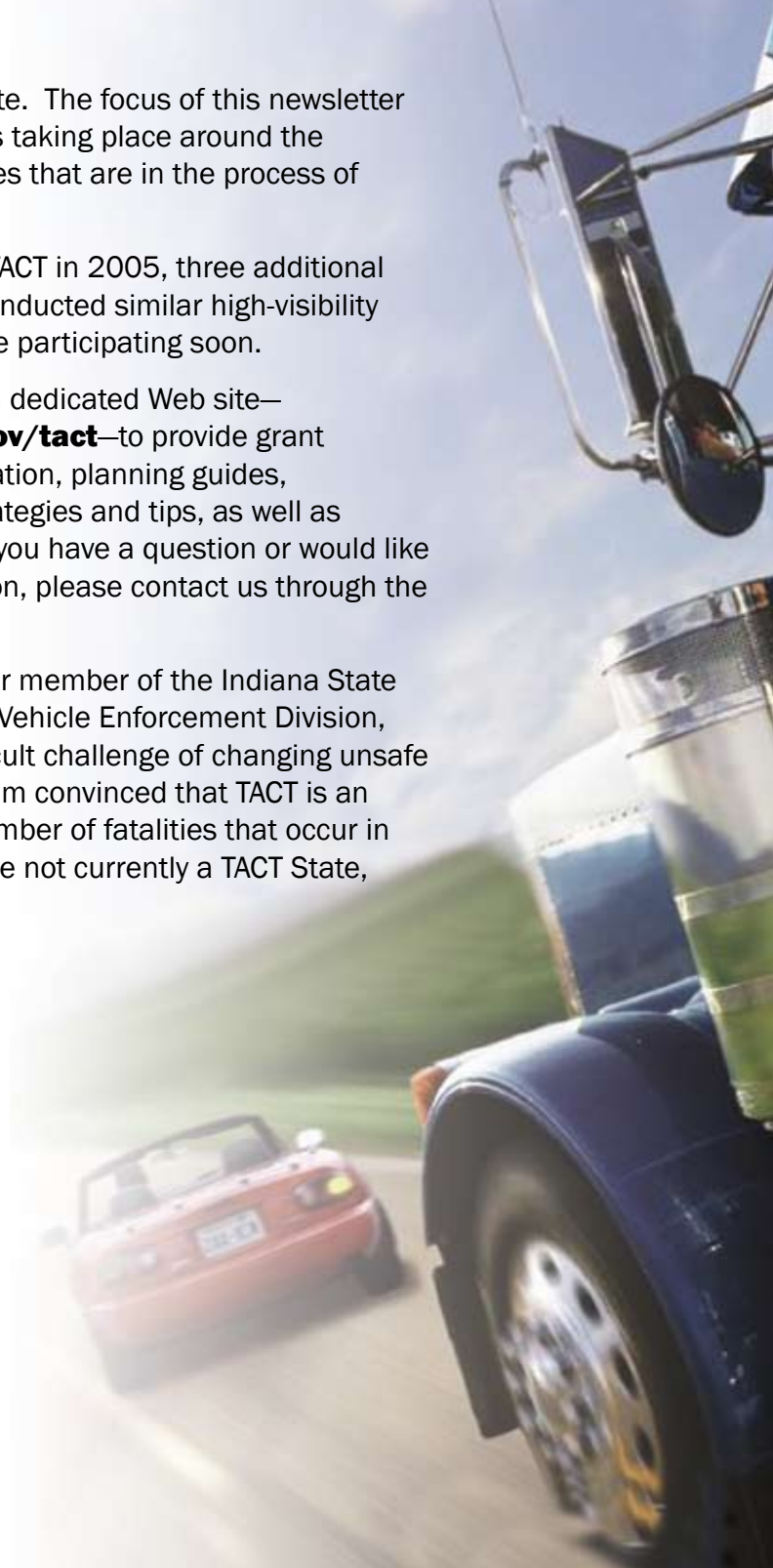
effective way to promote safety and help reduce the number of fatalities that occur in crashes on our highways and roads each year. If you are not currently a TACT State, I encourage you to become one soon.

Sincerely,

John H. Hill  
Administrator  
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation

## In This Issue

About T-SPEN	TACT Funding
T-SPEN Activity Update	Upcoming Events
Spotlight on TACT	The Latest Research
Safety Partners	TACT Safety Partners
	Contact Us



**About the TACT State Peer Exchange Network (T-SPEN)**

The *Ticketing Aggressive Cars and Trucks* (TACT) State Peer Exchange Network (T-SPEN) is a group of State and local stakeholders participating in the TACT program who are taking the lead in sharing approaches to save lives by reducing crashes between passenger and commercial motor vehicles. The States currently participating in T-SPEN include Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, and Washington.

The vision of T-SPEN is to be an advocate and serve as the national resource and information source for TACT programs.

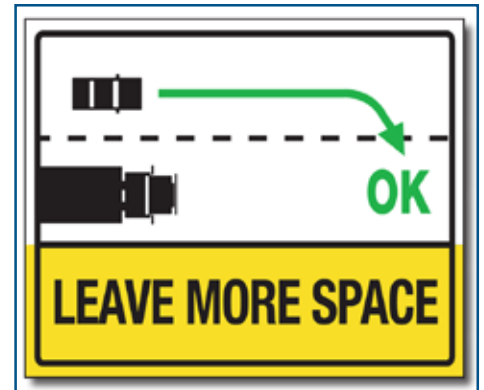
The mission of T-SPEN is to support the sharing of lessons learned among TACT States; bring Federal, State, and local resources together to educate the public about how to operate safely around big trucks; and to find the best approaches to save lives.



**T-SPEN Activity Update**

**Washington**—Washington was selected as the pilot State for the TACT program because of its previous enforcement initiatives to combat unsafe driving behaviors around commercial motor vehicles (CMVs), and its success in *Step Up and Ride* and the *Click It or Ticket* campaigns. The Washington TACT program was started in July 2005 and four corridors were selected—two for high-visibility enforcement and two as controls. Today, the program is fully implemented and 10 troopers are assigned full-time to the program. Washington will continue working on its education and outreach program and plans to conduct a TACT enforcement wave in 2008. Lieutenant Kevin Zeller is the point of contact for the Washington TACT program.

**Kentucky**—The first of three TACT enforcement waves began in August 2007 for the Kentucky Vehicle Enforcement Division’s 12-month program. The TACT program was deployed to two of the top CMV crash corridors in the State. Preliminary survey results suggested reduced crashes and increased safety practices. Kentucky used traffic camera videos in the enforcement corridors to evaluate results.



Kentucky will start its second TACT enforcement wave in February 2008. Thad Sullivan is the point of contact for the Kentucky TACT program.

**North Carolina**—In September 2007, the North Carolina Highway Patrol started its 12-month Operation TACT program enforcement wave. During stops for warnings or citations in the enforcement corridors, a flyer was given to each offender. On one side there was TACT program information; on the other side there were safety driving tips. North Carolina has finished post-completion surveys and is in the process of evaluating the results of its enforcement waves. Myra Beckers is the point of contact for the North Carolina TACT program.

**Georgia**—The Georgia Department of Public Safety launched its year-long Georgia TACT (G-TACT) program in November 2007 to reduce the number of crashes between passenger vehicles and CMVs. (Continued on page 3)

## Georgia Update Continued

G-TACT combines educational outreach and media coverage with enforcement by officers in two traffic corridors with a sustained increase in the number of passenger vehicle and CMV crashes. Georgia's first phase of the G-TACT was a success. Pre- and post-surveys were deployed at driver service centers in the enforcement corridors, and telephone surveys were conducted by the University of Georgia to evaluate results of the first-phase of G-TACT. Georgia's upcoming TACT enforcement wave is scheduled for kickoff in February 2008. Georgia intends to continue with the TACT programs on other major transportation arteries. There are two contacts by region for the G-TACT program: Major Wayne Beck in the Southern region and Major Christopher Long in the Northern region of the State.

## TACT Funding

States are encouraged to use basic and incentive grant funding and apply high-priority grants to support TACT program efforts and comply with the requirements of Section 4106 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Under SAFETEA-LU, States are required to conduct comprehensive and highly-visible traffic enforcement and commercial motor vehicle safety inspection programs in high-risk locations and corridors. Visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) for the latest funding information.



## Spotlight on TACT Safety Partners

### State Patrol and State Police

The Official Directory of State Patrol & State Police was founded, built, and is managed by Senior Sergeant Terrance D. Martin. Sergeant Martin retired in 1994 from the Vermont State Police. The site provides links to every State patrol's official Web site, including links to their highway patrols and homeland security. From this comprehensive site, users interested in different safety policies for highways and drivers or users who are interested

in contacting any State patrol can easily find the State patrol's sites without having to conduct extensive research. This directory also serves as a repository for support across State patrol groups. For example, members have posted poems, stories, and Web sites that help them share in the challenges and points of pride in serving as State patrol officers.

For more information, please visit [www.statetroopersdirectory.com](http://www.statetroopersdirectory.com).

## Upcoming Events

### February

- T-SPEN Planning Session  
February 26, 2008  
Orlando, Florida

### March

#### Conferences/Workshops

- FMCSA MCSAP Leadership Conference  
March 25-26, 2008  
Denver, Colorado  
Hyatt Regency  
Colorado Convention Center
- CVSA Workshop  
March 27-30, 2008  
Denver, Colorado  
Hyatt Regency  
Colorado Convention Center  
[www.cvsa.org](http://www.cvsa.org)

### April

- Lifesavers Conference  
April 13-15, 2008  
Portland, Oregon  
Oregon Convention Center  
[www.lifesaversconference.org](http://www.lifesaversconference.org)
- Kentucky Lifesavers Conference  
April 20, 2008  
Louisville, Kentucky  
The Galt House Hotel and Suites  
[lifesavers.ky.gov](http://lifesavers.ky.gov)

Visit [www.fmcsa.dot.gov/tact](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/tact)  
for the latest transportation  
news and events around  
the Nation!

## The Latest Research

In 2004 through 2006, in the United States, 15,470 people were killed in crashes involving at least one large truck, and 336,000 people were injured in large truck crashes. During the same period, 1,242,000 large trucks were involved in crashes. Over 70 percent of the deaths and injuries in these 3 years were a result of large truck crashes with passenger vehicles.

### Trends in Passenger Vehicle (PV) Deaths from Collisions with Commercial Motor Vehicles (CMV)

Year	Fatalities from Large Truck Crashes	PV Occupant Fatalities from Large Truck Crashes	% of Fatalities from PV & CMV Crashes to All Large Truck Crashes	Total Fatalities from All Motor Vehicles Crashes
2006	4,995	3,542	70.9%	42,642
2005	5,240	3,692	70.4%	43,510
2004	5,235	3,817	72.9%	42,836

*Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)*

### Trends in Large Truck Crashes and Injuries

Year	Large Trucks Involved in Fatal Crashes	Large Trucks Involved in All Crashes	Large Truck Occupants Injured in Large Truck Crashes	Other Vehicle Occupants Injured in Large Truck Crashes	Total Injuries from Large Truck Crashes
2006	4,732	384,732	23,000	81,000	106,000
2005	4,951	440,951	27,000	84,000	114,000
2004	4,902	415,902	27,000	85,000	116,000

*Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Traffic Safety Facts 2006 Early Edition*

The TACT program provides a research-based safety model that can be replicated by States when conducting a high-visibility traffic enforcement program to promote safe driving behaviors among passenger and CMV drivers. The mission of the TACT program is to reduce CMV-related crashes, injuries, and fatalities. The FMCSA is achieving its mission by educating car and truck drivers on how to share the road safely.



# TACT Safety Partners

- American Trucking Associations [www.truckline.com/index](http://www.truckline.com/index)
- Federal Highway Administration [www.fhwa.dot.gov/](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/)
- Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration [www.fmcsa.dot.gov/](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/)
- Governor's Highway Safety Representatives [www.ghsa.org/](http://www.ghsa.org/)
- International Association of Chiefs of Police [www.theiacp.org/](http://www.theiacp.org/)
- National Highway Traffic Safety Administration [www.nhtsa.dot.gov/](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/)
- National Safety Council [www.nsc.org/](http://www.nsc.org/)
- National Sheriff's Association [www.sheriffs.org/](http://www.sheriffs.org/)
- State Patrol and State Police [www.statetroopersdirectory.com/](http://www.statetroopersdirectory.com/)

TACT Quarterly e-Update provided by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Volume 1, Issue 1 January 2008

## Contact Us

For States interested in participating in the *Ticketing Aggressive Cars and Trucks* (TACT) Program, please e-mail [tactinfo@dot.gov](mailto:tactinfo@dot.gov).

To receive information about how cars and trucks can share the road safely, please call 1-877-SAFE-TRK (723-3875).

The mailing address for FMCSA is:

United States Department of Transportation  
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration  
Outreach Division, Office of Enforcement and Program Delivery  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, W63-314  
Washington, DC 20590  
[www.fmcsa.dot.gov](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov)

To contact FMCSA Service Centers and Field Offices, please visit  
[www.fmcsa.dot.gov/about/contact/offices/displayfieldroster.asp](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/about/contact/offices/displayfieldroster.asp)



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration**