

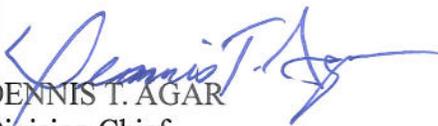
Memorandum

*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

To: DISTRICT DIRECTORS
DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTORS,
Maintenance, Operations and Construction

Date: March 7, 2014

File:

From: 
DENNIS T. AGAR
Division Chief
Division of Traffic Operations

Subject: **Traffic Incident Management Guidelines**

The Division of Traffic Operations, in collaboration with the Division of Maintenance, the California Highway Patrol (CHP), the California Tow Truck Association (CTTA), California Shock Trauma Air Rescue, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and several responder agencies, have developed the Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Guidelines for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). While the TIM Guidelines have references to state codes and regulations, the bulk of the guidance is a compilation of best practices designed to facilitate decision making for personnel involved in traffic incident response.

In California, 22 line-of-duty deaths have occurred over the last three years related to incident response that include Caltrans' personnel, law enforcement, tow operators, emergency medical service and fire personnel. In the United States, the cost of the congestion caused by incidents is significant with estimates of 1 billion hours of traveler delay, \$22 billion in delay costs, and 700 million gallons of wasted fuel annually.

The TIM Guidelines support Caltrans, CHP, State Fire Marshall, and CTTA efforts to train all personnel associated with TIM response on FHWA's Second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP-2) TIM Responder training. The goal is for all agencies involved in TIM response to detect, verify, respond to and clear incidents on the state highways as quickly as possible and to limit the exposure of the travelling public and incident responders at the scene of the incident.

For more information on the TIM Guidelines or FHWA's SHRP-2 TIM Responder training, contact Larry Wooster at (916) 654-6104, or email <lwooster@dot.ca.gov>.

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