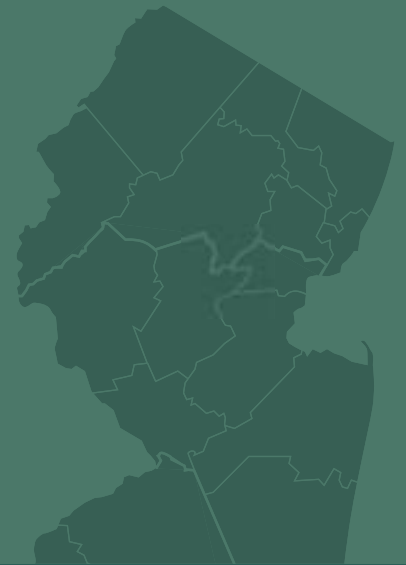




5th Annual Child Passenger Safety Conference March 28-30, 2006



THE WILDWOODS CONVENTION CENTER
WILDWOOD, NEW JERSEY



NJ OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DIVISION OF HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY



In 1998, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration developed a standardized curriculum to instruct parents on the correct way to select, install, and secure a child in a child safety seat. Surveys had determined that there was a level of misuse exceeding 90% and there were no organized programs to address this problem. Since then, over 40,000 individuals have taken the 32-hour class to become certified as Child Passenger Safety Technicians in all fifty states and almost 2,000 in New Jersey alone. By the year 2000, enough national interest had been gained to justify the first Institute for Childhood Injury Prevention (ICIP) Child Passenger Safety Technical Conference, which by its third year had drawn over 1,500 certified technicians and over fifty sponsors and exhibitors.

It was at the Third Annual ICIP Conference in Arlington, Texas, during the NHTSA Regional meetings held late in the afternoon on the first full day of workshops, that this conference was born. The State CPS Contact from New York State, the coordinators and instructors from Suffolk and Nassau County, a representative from Connecticut Safe Kids, myself and another New Jersey instructor had a discussion about the possibility of relaying this important timely information to the technicians and instructors in our own states. Most local programs cannot afford to send their people around the country to receive the benefit of this additional training, so we formed a committee to bring the information to them.

This Conference, the fifth in as many years, provided certified technicians from the NHTSA Eastern region with updated information, studies, techniques, and program ideas to better serve the public with child passenger safety programs. Representatives from New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, The U.S. Virgin Islands, and due to this year's location, Pennsylvania and Delaware, attended workshops and presentations from nationally recognized occupant protection experts from as far as Michigan.



The Conference consistently draws between 400 to 500 attendees for this two and a half day event. This year was no different, as over 450 individuals were in attendance. The location in Wildwood, New Jersey, provided a beautiful oceanfront background for the workshops and meetings which were standing room only for the duration of the event. A Summer resort town in the very early Spring can pose some logistical difficulties, which there were a few. However, these obstacles could not interfere with the level of information being presented and the enthusiasm of those in attendance.



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The New Jersey Division of Highway
Traffic Safety would like to thank all
of the above committee members and
those individuals who assisted at the
conference who are not listed, such as:

Tracy Noble
Edward Barnes
Arthur Medina
Violet Marrero
Dianne Baginski

Special Thanks

As host agency for the 2006 Eastern Region Child Passenger Safety Conference, I would like to first and foremost thank the Director and Governor's Representative for the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety, Roberto Rodriguez. Director Rodriguez sees not only the importance of the presented information during the two and a half day event, but also the dedication of the certified technicians and instructors who attend. Administrators are always impressed that our conference attendees attend all of the workshops and are excited about learning new information.

Second, these conferences would not be possible without the backing and organization of the New Jersey Automobile Club of New Jersey and, specifically, Michele Mount. Michele and her organization deals with all of the issues that we, as governmental agencies, cannot and she handles them efficiently and professionally. Further, her knowledge in the field of Child Passenger Safety and Media Relations makes her invaluable to the program in the entire region, not just in New Jersey.

Finally, and even though she is on the Planning Committee, Suzanne O'Hearn, from the Region I staff of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety, committed herself totally to the conference while maintaining her responsibilities in South Jersey as a Highway Safety Specialist. Suzanne went above and beyond so many times before, during, and after the event, that the incidences could never be listed on this page.

Again, thanks too all of you for helping make this year's conference a success.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. J. O'Connor', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Edward J. O'Connor
Regional Supervisor

**5TH ANNUAL
EASTERN REGION TECHNICAL CONFERENCE**

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

2:00pm – 8:00pm Registration Opens

6:30pm – 8:00pm Reception Ballroom Lobby

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

7:30am – 9:00am Continental Breakfast Ballroom

9:00am – 10:15am Opening Session Ballroom

10:30am – 11:45am Workshop Session #1
Meeting Room 1 – Transporting the Child with Special Health Needs
Meeting Room 2 – Safe Kids Worldwide Update
Meeting Room 3 – Roll Call Training for Law Enforcement
Meeting Room 5/6 – EMS for Children
Meeting Room 7/8 – CPS: The Older Child

12:00pm Luncheon Ballroom

1:00pm – 2:15pm Workshop Session #2
Meeting Room 1 – Transporting the Child with Special Health Needs
Meeting Room 2 – Safe Kids Worldwide Update
Meeting Room 3 – Research Results Regarding CPS
Meeting Room 5/6 – AAA Observational Study
Meeting Room 7/8 – Cultural Diversity in CPS Programs

2:30pm – 3:45pm Workshop Session #3
Meeting Room 1 – Child Seat Manufacturers
Meeting Room 2 – AAA Observational Study
Meeting Room 3 – Innovative CPS Programs
Meeting Room 5/6 – Creative Law Enforcement
Meeting Room 7/8 – Instructor Development

4:00pm – 5:00pm State CPS Meeting
Meeting Room 1 – New York
Meeting Room 2 – New Jersey
Meeting Room 3 – Open Discussion Led by Michele Mount
and Joseph Colella

Thursday, March 30 , 2006

- 7:30am – 9:00am Continental Breakfast Ballroom**
- 9:00am – 10:15am Workshop Session #4**
Meeting Room 1 – Child Seat Manufacturers
Meeting Room 2 – “Backseat Bullets”
Meeting Room 3 – Education: “Outside the Vehicle”
Meeting Room 5/6 – What Pediatricians Need to Know
Meeting Room 7/8 – Instructor Mentoring
- 10:15am – 10:45am Break**
- 10:45am – 12:00pm Workshop Session #5**
Meeting Room 1 – Little Kids and Big Yellow Buses
Meeting Room 2 – CPS for Health Professionals
Meeting Room 3 – CPS Crash Investigation
Meeting Room 5/6 – Cultural Sensitivity
Meeting Room 7/8 – Distribution Programs
- 12:00pm – 12:15pm Break**
- 12:15pm – 1:30pm Workshop Session #6**
Meeting Room 1 – EMS for Children
Meeting room 2 – “Backseat Bullets”
Meeting Room 3 – CPS Fatality Trends
Meeting Room 5/6 – Body Mechanics
Meeting Room 7/8 – Roundtable Discussion
- 1:30pm Luncheon/Adjournment Ballroom**

THE OPENING SESSION BALLROOM WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2006



The session began with Edward O'Connor, New Jersey State CPS Contact and Regional Supervisor for the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety, calling for the presentation of the colors, presented by the United States Coast Guard Recruit Color Guard, followed by a bugle performance of the National Anthem.

The first welcome was given by Roberto Rodriguez, Director and Governor's Representative for the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety. Director Rodriguez gave a succinct overview of the success of the child passenger program in the Eastern Region and emphasized the importance of data and evaluation in this area, that we can only measure true success through a reduction in injuries from crashes. The Director also thanked his staff and colleagues in other states for their support with this event.

Tom Louizou, Regional Administrator for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Eastern Region, followed with remarks about the child passenger safety program nationally and how the Northeastern states are doing extremely well with occupant protection in general. The Northeastern states, including Connecticut and Pennsylvania, all have usage rates above eighty percent, which is particularly impressive because not all have primary laws.



Kenneth Carpenter, Executive Director for the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, made remarks on behalf of their newly appointed Governor's Representative for Highway Safety. Mr. Carpenter thanked his staff and the large representation from New York who made the trip to Wildwood.



The Honorable Ernest Troiano, Mayor of the City of Wildwood, gave a warm welcome to the packed house which included a personal observation about child safety seat use in his own family.

Mr. O'Connor closed the session with some housekeeping information, schedule changes, and gratitude for all those who helped with the planning of this event.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION/REVIEW

The following descriptions and evaluation summaries are provided for each workshop in the order of appearance during the conference.

Meeting Room 1 “Transporting the Child with Special Health Needs”

Moderator: Jeanne Marie Stewart

Description: Workshop will introduce the CPS technician to common health needs diagnoses and the appropriate equipment associated with these children. Topics covered include child car restraint systems, bus transportation, ambulance and wheelchair transportation.

Panelists: Patricia D. Foley is a child passenger safety technician and physical therapist. Currently, she is the site Director at Children’s Specialized Hospital Outpatient Center in Hamilton, New Jersey.

Anne Ruecktenwald is the Clinical Director of Physical Therapy at Children’s Specialized Hospital. She oversees both inpatient and outpatient physical therapy programs for the organization.

Michele Krosnick is a Physical Therapist at Children’s Specialized Hospital. She oversees both inpatient infant and toddler program for the Physical Therapy Department and has been a CPS tech for three years.

Dalthea Brown is a Physical Therapist at Children’s Specialized Hospital Toms River Facility in Ocean County, New Jersey. She is a RESNA credentialized Assistive Technology Specialist. Her responsibilities include assisting families in obtaining rehab technology including mobility devices.



Comments: There were approximately 75 in attendance for both this session and the following part II session. The overall evaluations were extremely positive for the instructor’s abilities, knowledge, and handling of the questions. The major concerns were that they ran out of time during the hands-on segment and that it was not clear that there were two sessions. Results overwhelmingly determined that it should continue to be a future workshop topic.

Meeting Room 2 “CPS Certification Update”

Moderator: Wendy Schindler

Description: This session will highlight the Safe Kids online system and demonstrate how to maximize its features.

Presenter: Kerry Chausmer joined Safe Kids in the Summer of 2004 after working in injury prevention and child passenger safety for 10 years. She has earned an MPA and MSW from Tulane University.

Comments: There were 20 in attendance. Almost all of the attendees were program administrators and therefore received the full benefits of Ms. Chausmer’s presentation. Several attendees were technicians who obviously never checked their status on the Safe Kids website, which gives them the information that they said was not included in the lecture. The majority of attendees were impressed with the information given and particularly the future of the national program.

Meeting Room 3 “Roll Call Training for Law Enforcement”

Moderator: D. Walker

Description: A designed presentation for Law Enforcement officials to take back to their departments for use as a 2 hour or 4 hour training program. This training gives patrol officers the “Basics of Child Passenger Safety.” It is designed to assist patrol officers in recognizing the most common and dangerous problems that technicians find while inspecting seats.

Presenters: Sergeant Rick Youngs is currently Patrol Supervisor with over 15 years of law enforcement experience. The past 10 years have been primarily dealing with highway traffic safety. A Certified CPS Instructor, Certified Police Instructor, and Certified Fire Instructor in New York State. Sergeant Youngs has been a CPS Tech since 2000.

Sergeant Kevin Owens is with the Ontario County Sheriff’s Office. He has been certified as a CPS Tech since 2000 and a CPS Instructor since 2003. Sergeant Owens is also a Certified Police Instructor.

Comments: This was a very crowded session and should have been repeated. Most of the evaluations made mention of more workshops like this one, involving materials for the police officer in the field. Every response requested that this be presented at the next conference.

Meeting Room 5/6 “EMS for Children: Transporting the Non-Traumatically Injured Child ”

Moderator: Dennis Smith



Description: This presentation is based on the research of Dr. Nadine Levick and Dr. Marilyn Bull. The focus is using evidential research based techniques to transport the 5-40 pound child as safely as possible in the absence of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.

Presenter: Barbi Harris is a Registered Pediatric Nurse , Certified CPS Instructor, and a Special Needs Technician. She is also currently Chapter Coordinator for Safe Kids of Atlantic and Cape May Counties and provides injury prevention outreach for the trauma center, which is the third busiest in New Jersey.

Comments: There were approximately 75 in attendance, all who greatly appreciated the information which is, apparently, not readily available. The speaker received very high marks for her knowledge and presentation skills.

**Meeting Room 7/8 “Child Passenger Safety: The Older Child”
“Research and Insights From New “Tween” Pilot Programs**

Moderator: Ann Burton

Description: The audience will learn what NHTSA is doing to address the issue of increasing the 8 to 15 year olds use of safety belts in motor vehicles. The are many challenges one faces with this age group.

National data show that “twens” are more likely to be unbelted and in front seats than younger children. But most programs are generally focused on younger children or teen drivers. Pilot programs in Dallas, Texas, and Joplin, Missouri, sponsored by the Automotive Coalition for Traffic Safety, conducted focus groups and surveys to help develop interventions to increase to increase proper restraint use for 8 to 12 year olds. Key insights from this research will be shared to help traffic safety advocates in other communities begin to focus their efforts on this age group. Since tweens are tomorrow’s drivers, we need to begin to explore ways to help them develop the lifelong habit of buckling up – now!

Presenters: Tammy Levitas is a Highway Traffic Specialist in the Office of Injury Control and Operation Resources. Tammy recently moved to ICOR from Occupant Protection. While in OP, Tammy oversaw several projects focusing on children – including managing the National CPS training program, overseeing the Transporting Children with Special Health Care Needs program with Dr. Marilyn Bull at Riley Children’s Hospital, addressing the development and publication of the booster seat

education plan (A National Strategy: Increasing Booster Seat for 4 to 8 Year Old Children), working on issues facing pre-school and special needs on school buses, managing a Head Start grant, and spearheading addressing increasing safety belt use among 8 to 15 year old motor vehicle occupants.

For the past eight years, Christine Jennings has worked at the Automotive Coalition for Traffic Safety (ACTS), an auto-industry funded non-profit organization. As Director of Programs, she created and co-moderated the 2003 Child Passenger Safety Summit and the 2006 Teen Belt Use Symposium. She is currently leading ACTS' Tween grant program to increase attention to proper restraint and seating position for children 8 to 12 years of age. She graduated in 1996 from Salisbury University with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with a concentration in Early Childhood.

Formed in 1986, ACTS is a non-profit organization whose mission is to educate policymakers, lawmakers, regulators and the general public about safety belts, airbags, child passenger safety and other motor vehicle occupant protection issues.

ACTS members include DaimlerChrysler Corporation; Ford Motor Company; General Motors Corporation, Mazda North American Operations; Nissan North America, Inc.; Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.; Volkswagon of America, Inc.; the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, Inc.; and the Automotive Occupant Restraints Council, Inc.

Comments: Evaluations revealed that a lot of information was presented (so much that there was no time for questions), and very little in the way of recommended countermeasures for this group. The presenters were given high marks for their knowledge and ability.

Meeting Room 3 “Using Data: Research Results Regarding Child Passenger Safety Behaviors in Older Children”

Moderator: Violet Marrero

Description: Research has been conducted on over 1,200 adolescents to determine adolescent attitudes, exposure, and risk-taking behaviors related to injury, including behaviors regarding motor vehicles. The research goes beyond just drinking and driving or seat belt use to tangential attitudes and exposure to risk-taking behaviors related to motor vehicles. The session will also present our Let's Not Meet by Accident Program (LNMBA), a program that helps teens focus on their attention on the potential dangers of risky behaviors and fosters social change by educating youth on the dangers of drinking/drugging & driving, seat belt safety, and speeding. A varied amount of teaching tools, such as mock trauma, student exercise, video segments, and guest speakers are utilized to address the students. Participants will be able to replicate the LNMBA program, program outlines/implementation guides, and research/program evaluation tools.

Presenter: Jeannine Marron is a researcher in the Violence and Injury Prevention Program (VIPPP) at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford, Connecticut. Jeannine obtained her CPS certification in May 2005 after become interested in CPS while analyzing the data gleaned from the

KISS-CT program's participation surveys.

Comments: The workshop was well presented and very useful to CPS professionals. The presentation provided participants with the valuable insight of how to gauge and track the success of their programs through the use of the survey data. There was a question and answer session of the workshop during which participants inquired about how the follow-up was designed, however, many of the students waited until the end to approach the speakers individually.

Meeting Room 5/6 “AAA Observational Study”

Moderator: Ed Baginski



Description: Provide information on the current findings of restraint use of the 4 to 8 age group from observation studies, crash data, and national telephone surveys. The second part of the workshop will be an open discussion with participants on the barriers of restraint use in this age group and strategies that could be implemented to improve booster seat use for this group.

Presenter: Lawrence E. Decina is a Senior Associate with TransAnalytics LLC in the Philadelphia area. He has twenty years of research experience on occupant restraint issues and has been the Principal Investigator on several NHTSA studies involving observational surveys of child restraint system and LATCH system use and misuse. He has over a dozen published articles in the fields of child passenger safety, teen driving, older driver screening, driver distraction, and other driver behavior issues. He recently developed “A Guidebook for Observing Occupant Restraint System Use and Misuse” for the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety and his company developed the CD “Roadwise Review” for the AAA Motor Clubs.

Comments: There were 24 in attendance for the first of two workshops. Reviews were excellent for the presenter, the moderator, and the book which was given to each attendee. Mr. Decina is a nationally known researcher in the field of traffic safety who possesses the ability to relate the information to non-researchers.



Meeting Room 7/8 “Cultural Diversity in the Community”



Moderator: Ed O’Connor

Description: The workshop shows methods to educate populations often misunderstood by the governmental agencies involved in injury prevention. Programs to address the Latino communities in New Jersey and the Hasidic Community in New York state are highlighted.

Presenters: Wendy Shindler, RN, BSW, is the Trauma Nurse Coordinator at Good Samaritan Hospital. She is the New York State Safe Kids Coordinator and is a technician since 1998 and an instructor since 1999. She works very closely with the Hasidic communities with her CPS program.

Jim Graniela is the Project Coordinator for ASPIRA Inc. of New Jersey. Mr. Graniela graduated from the School of Visual Arts in 1977. As a Gaffer and Director of Photography, he featured credits that include Lethel Weapon and Lethel Weapon 2. He Produced and Directed Not Just Good Time Sunday which is in the prominent collection of the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.

Jose Ramos is the Executive Director for the Spanish American Social and Cultural Association located in Willingboro, New Jersey.

Comments: This was not the typical “ethnic diversity” presentation about tailoring standard programs to reach levels of acceptance by an audience that we do not understand. The three presenters have been involved with government programs for over 20 years collectively and were able to set aside the uncomfortable misunderstandings and get right to the point. Mr. Graniela told of his background in cinematography and how the Aspirantes are utilizing what he teaches them to relate to their peers. Mr. Ramos explained the “Cultural phenomena” of the Latino population and why prevention programs have achieved only limited success. Finally, Wendy Schindler answered all of the basic questions about the Hasidic community that we, as white Americans, always wanted to know. Those in attendance left with a better understanding of why undocumented Americans are hesitant to trust Government and why the Hasidic community avoids our programs and how we can improve the relationships with both.



Meeting Room 1 “Child Seat Manufacturers”

Moderator: Tracy Noble

Description: This workshop is an opportunity for the child seat manufacturers to present any new products, recommendations, and concepts in development to the CPS community. Individual vendors will give a short presentation, leaving ample time for questions and answers.

Presenter(s) :

Evenflo

Graco

Prevention Alternatives – David Shinn

Sunshine Kids – Russ Berger

Patsy Pilcher

Wendy Gordan

Carol Helmminski

Comments: As always, this was a well attended session since it reveals the latest technology and equipment that all in attendance will be seeing in the upcoming year. There were 125 in attendance. The presenters were all professionals who handled the questions without hesitation.

Meeting Room 3 “Innovative Programs”

Moderator: David Miller

Description: This program intends to demonstrate partnerships between public and private industry, methods of developing these programs, and creative methods used to foster these partnerships. It has been a priority of NHTSA for many years to expand the outreach of traffic safety messages through these types of partnerships, however, there are proven development methods that ensure the sincerity of these efforts. The presenters in this workshop all represent sincere efforts to making their communities safer.

Presenters: Dave Cestaro is the Vice President of Operations for Baby Depot at Burlington Coat Factory and has been with the company for 18 years. In his current role, Dave oversees the day to day functions of the Baby Depot division while creating strategies for the concept’s lasting success. His previous positions as a Baby Depot Supervisor and as Vice President of Customer Relations have offered him the invaluable perspective that comes from in-store experience and direct interaction with the consumer.

Dave is a Certified CPS Technician and he actively participates in CPS checks throughout the Northeast. Dave attended Drew University. He resides in North Haledon, New Jersey, with his wife and two children.

Wendy Gordon is the President of Child Safety Solutions and has developed and managed publishing teams



and programs for more than twenty years for a variety of organizations including non-profits, corporations and now Child Safety Solutions. A graduate of Biola University, Ms. Gordon is also a children's author and media guest who specializes in child and family safety. Her television credits include interviews on CBS the Morning, WGN, UPN, and the Total Living Network, among others. Safe Kids Worldwide has reviewed and recommended many titles in Gordon's I'm Safe! Series – books that help children ages 3-8 make 'safe-smart' choices. To date, she has

more than 2 million books in print. She initiated the Midcoast Safe Kids chapter and together with her husband, David, co-chairs the Board of Directors for Maine Safe Kids and serves as a licensed foster parent with the State of Maine.

Teresa Thomas has been the South Jersey Traffic Safety Alliance Program Manager for 5 years and A CPS Technician for 3 years. The SJTSA is a part of the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization and represents the four Southernmost Counties in New Jersey. Teresa has been a leader in New Jersey with regard to creativity, identifying new partnerships, and getting the job done.

Comments: Although the evaluations revealed some confusion about the intent of this workshop, the results were extremely positive. Almost every evaluation mentioned that it revealed many potential resources that were never considered before attending the workshop. Mr. Cestaro made it clear that his organization is just one example of a non-traditional government partnership and that the philosophy that he and Burlington Coat Factory has can be presented to virtually any for-profit business. Ms. Thomas and Ms. Gordon, although using completely different approaches, presented equally intriguing methods for alternate funding.

Meeting Room 5/6 “A Creative Law Enforcement Response to Non-compliant Child Safety Seat Use”

Moderator: Tom Moody

Description: Parents who are given a ticket for a violation are often hesitant to openly learn proper CPS technique. A mandated requirement to do so often makes these families difficult to engage. A creative, interactive education class has been implemented to teach parents and caregivers to correctly secure their children and utilize law enforcement as a positive resource in the community. Participants will learn ways to implement such a program in their community.

Presenters: Sergeant Tom Field is a twenty-nine year member of the South Windsor Police Department in Connecticut. He was the Patrol Watch Commander for twelve years, Traffic Unit Supervisor for six years and developed a Regional Traffic Unit to reduce DUI and increase child safety seat and seatbelt use in the Greater Hartford area. One of two of the first Police Officers certified in CPS for the State of Connecticut. Now the Community Outreach Coordinator and involved with CPS as an Instructor and in holding a weekly fitting station in South Windsor. Sergeant Field is also a Certified

Driving Instructor teaching classes to mature drivers.

Comments: There were 50 in attendance for this session. Sergeant Fields did an excellent job of captivating the audience, especially since his lap top computer did not work with the projector. After several attempts to rectify this situation, which delayed the start, he was able to do a presentation with out the use of audio-visual aids.

Meeting Room 7/8 “CPS Instructors: Handling Problem Children in Your Class”

Moderator: Sharon Ganey

Description: This workshop is intended to help CPS Technician Instructors manage their classrooms more effectively by identifying “problem behaviors” and suggesting effective and appropriate responses to those behaviors. The first half of the workshop will be devoted to classroom lecture and the second half will be used to conduct a group exercise, giving attendees an opportunity to work out their own responses to various “Problem children” and share them with the rest of the class.

Presenter: Sergeant Jon Lupo is a 19-year veteran of the New York State Police and Supervises the State Police’s Occupant Protection and Child Passenger Safety Programs. He is a nationally certified CPS Instructor and state and nationally certified police instructor. He has taught CPS and other topics in more than 20 states and is a member of the New York State Child Passenger Safety Advisory Board. He resides in Latham, New York, with his wife, Cindy, and his daughter, Stephanie.

Comments: Sergeant Jon Lupo was unable to attend the conference, but he assigned the workshop to Joseph Colella, formerly the Director of Training for National Safe Kids. Mr. Colella, very well known in the CPS community, demonstrated why this is the case by presenting a small work group session which identified key elements of effective instructor presentation techniques.

Meeting Room 2 “Backseat Bullets”

Moderator: Janine Schultz

Description Unbelted passengers become “Backseat Bullets” during a collision. The University of Buffalo performs crash tests with dummies to demonstrate how these backseat occupants can crush front seat passengers.

Presenter: Dietrich Jehle, M.D., is the Director of Emergency Services at the Erie County Medical Center, the Regional Adult Level 1 Trauma Center for Western New York. He is an Associate Professor and Vice Chairman of Emergency Medicine and Director of Stadium Medical Services for the Buffalo Bills. Dr. Jehle co-authored the first text on Ultrasound in Emergency Medicine and the first Trauma Ultrasound textbook. He authored the first studies of Ultrasound by Emergency Physicians in the diagnosis of blunt abdominal trauma, intrauterine pregnancy versus ectopic pregnancy, gallbladder

disease and abdominal aortic aneurysms, the first studies of the use of oximetry in pre-hospital care and the initial study of head cooling in cardiac arrest. Dr. Jehle has completed a number of studies in transportation injury and has authored 4 texts, 15 book chapters and published 43 articles in peer reviewed journals.

Dr. Jehle is a former Chairman of the Technology Committee for the Society for American Emergency Medicine, past Board Examiner for the American Board of Emergency Medicine and former Board Member of the New York Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians. He is currently the Site Director for the Center for Transportation Injury Research and recipient of the American College of Emergency Physicians “National Faculty Teaching Award” and “Emergency Ultrasound Award.”

Comments: For the second straight year, Dr. Jehle’s presentation was the most favored by the conference attendees. This is due not only to his respectable credentials and his ability to relate the information to non-medical professionals, but mostly because the information is thought-provoking and pertinent.

Meeting Room 3 “Outside the Vehicle”

Moderator: Sue Hoffman

Description: Demonstrate how to perform an effective and educational seat check without getting into the vehicle. The presentation will engage the audience in a discussion on educating versus installing.

Presenter: Michele Mount manages AAA New Jersey’s Traffic Safety programs as well as coordinating its media and community relations. She is often described as the “face of AAA” having appeared on numerous television and radio programs. A certified technician-instructor, she is an active member of the child passenger safety community and is Vice-Chair of the National Child Passenger Safety Board. Michele earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in social relations and communications from Lehigh University.

Comments: Michele Mount received very high marks for this session. Although some suggested that the concept is more appropriate for “newbies”, it was a committee decision that the technicians and programs that have been around for a while are more likely to fall into the “installation” trap. Many positive comments about Ms. Mount’s suggestions to create a learning environment at child seat checks.

Meeting Room 5/6 “What Pediatricians DON’T know about the Largest Killer of Children: Results from a Connecticut Study Regarding Child Passenger Safety”

Moderator: Susan Larkin

Description: Understanding Pediatrician’s knowledge of child passenger safety information and anticipatory guidance to patients could improve compliance with the use of seats, prevent injuries, and improve health outcomes. It could also support inclusion in residency education programs and justification for public health education/prevention programs. This presentation reviews pediatrician’s knowledge regarding CPSS and how they use this knowledge in practice (with staggering impact on INNACCURATE guidance practices). It also reviews the mechanism of injuries in crashes, reinforces the AAP policy recommendations regarding child passenger safety, and provides pediatricians and public health educators concrete recommendations on instructing parents regarding CPSS. It will also demonstrate how these results facilitated collaboration with the state chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics for a state-wide pediatric education program. All presented information can be easily replicated by participants.

Presenter: Kat Smith, MSW is the Program Manager of the Violence and Injury Prevention Program, which oversees the Kids in Safety Seats – Connecticut (KISS-CT) Program. She is a Master’s prepared social worker with a plethora of clinical experience in abuse and violence prevention and intervention. Her entire professional focus has been on the improvement of services provided to at-risk children and families to reduce the risk of injury, neglect, abuse, and domestic violence. In addition, she currently utilizes her skills and expertise by serving on many community & state-based injury prevention committees, and has presented her programmatic and research initiatives at numerous national conferences.

Comments: This workshop, with attendance of 40 individuals, received extremely high marks as did the presenter. Obviously, this was sought after information as almost every evaluation thanked the conference for putting the workshop together.

Meeting Room 7/8 “Mentoring Instructor Candidates: Tips and Techniques”

Moderator: Deborah Lotito

Description: This presentation covered tips and techniques for successful mentoring of CPS Instructor Candidates. Topics included:

Types of Mentors

Framework for personal growth

Responsibilities of the mentee

Teaching with capabilities

Handling difficult situations

Lastly, the attendees participated in role playing situations to learn how

to facilitate a supportive framework that will foster personal growth for both mentor and mentee.

Presenter: Shari Mantini has been a Critical Care/Emergency Nurse for over 20 years. She became a CPS Technician in 1998 and went on to become an Instructor in 1999. Over the years Shari has been active in both local and national Emergency Nurses Association Committees and is currently a member of the New York State Child Passenger Safety Advisory Board.

Cynthia J. Dort is a teacher with a degree in Early Childhood Education. Child Passenger Safety Instructor since 1997. She is a member of the New York State Child Passenger Safety Advisory Board.

Comments: Although this subject should appeal to a limited audience (there 12 in attendance), clearly there is a need for this information. Many states have not taken the instructor mentoring role very seriously because of the need for more instructors. The presenters did an outstanding job of reminding us of the importance of effective mentoring and useful suggestions on how to do it.

Meeting Room 1 “Little Kids Riding on Big Yellow Buses”



Moderator : Fred Lyle

Description: A review of NHTSA guidelines for transporting pre-schoolers on school buses. The Workshop also discusses proper securement of child restraints on school buses, equipment required on Buses, evacuation plan policies and other recommendations. This is the classroom portion, there was a hands-on practical training in front of Convention Center.

Presenter: Debbie Kogut is the Coordinator for Onandaga County Traffic Safety Program and Greater Syracuse Safe Kids Coalition. She is a Certified CPS Instructor with 20 years experience in the field of traffic safety and occupant restraint education.

Comments: This is always a popular workshop topic simply because there are not many CPS technicians/instructors with a background in pupil transportation. Overwhelmingly, the presenters were well-received, however, the evaluations revealed that it was difficult to see the hands-on portion which took place on the bus. This is also the norm, as it is difficult for 50 individuals to see what takes place on a school bus bench seat inside a bus.

Meeting Room 2 “CPS for Health Professionals”

Moderator : K.J. Fuery

Description: Physical and Occupational Therapists work closely with parents of the children they are treating. They establish a trusting relationship that extends beyond medical treatment. Therapists are in a good position to advise parents in the correct means of transporting their children safely. The first part of the workshop addressed these areas and how to encourage participation by these healthcare professionals.

The second part will discuss ways of encouraging hospitals to incorporate CPS into their department’s goals including: ED, education, Prenatal, Labor and Delivery, and Pediatrics. Presenter also explained how techs were able to begin an inspection station on hospital grounds and then convince administration to pay for it (including staff).

Presenter: Susan Larkin is a Registered Nurse at Blythedale Children’s Hospital, a hospital dealing with children who require rehabilitation and have a variety of special needs. Susan is also the Coordinator of Safe Kids Westchester County. She has been a CPS Instructor for 8 years, working with many agencies in New York and neighboring states.

Esther Schuman is a trained social worker whose specialty is community organizing around health and wellness issues. She was appointed to coordinate Safe Kids activities for New London County, CT, in 2001. She established the first permanent child safety seat inspection station located at a hospital in the state of Connecticut, advocates for the increase of all child safety, and creates collaborations between Safe Kids and existing injury prevention specialists.

Comments: The health professionals who are active in CPS are some of our best advocates. There were 50 of them in attendance at this workshop, almost all of whom gave the workshop very high marks. Most commented on how appreciative they are to get some new ideas and hear similar situation to their own.

Meeting Room 3 “Smarter Driver – Safer Streets”



Moderator: Dan Shine

Description: Innovative program that combines collision investigation and driver education with high school level math and physics. This award winning program has been presented to over 4,000 high school students in New Jersey.

Presenter: Investigator Arnold “Andy” Anderson is a Collision Reconstructionist in the Vehicular Homicide Unit of the Es-

sex County Prosecutor's Office. Before he began this position in 2000, he was a fifteen year member of the Irvington Police Department. Andy is also the President of the Essex County Traffic Officers Association.

Comments: This workshop was done in 2002 at the Bridgewater conference to high marks. Investigator Anderson is very professional and presents material regularly to high school students as well as providing courtroom testimony. The evaluations described him as "captivating" and he packed the room with more than 200 law enforcement professionals.

Meeting Room 5/6 "Cultural Sensitivity and the CPS Message"

Moderator: Pamela Wanning

Description: Motor Vehicle crash injuries are disproportionately high among minority populations. In order to effectively reach these populations, NHTSA recommends that traffic safety programs be tailored to address cultural values, beliefs, and attitudes. This workshop will help with the understanding of the many dimensions of culture, how to identify cultural groups within your community, and provide strategies to help technicians more effectively educate these diverse groups about child passenger safety.

Presenter: Debra Douglas is the Occupant Restraint Program Manager for the New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Injury Prevention. Her duties include providing technical assistance, training and information about proven strategies to increase restraint use to public and local agencies in addition to developing and disseminating educational materials about the topic. She participates on NYSDOH training Team that conducts regional trainings on cultural competency throughout the state.

Melanie Loveric, RN, CCM, received her A.A.S. in Nursing from Mohawk Valley Community College in May, 1990. She has worked at the Oneida National Health Center as the Community Outreach Coordinator since October 2000. She has been a CPS technician since 2002.

Denise Miller is the Director of Programs for the South Fork Community Health Initiative, located in east Hampton. She has been the only CPS technician for her organization since 2003. In that time she has installed over 282 child passenger seats and has educated the community regarding traffic safety issues. Over 95% of her services are rendered to the Hispanic Community.

Comments: There were 20 in attendance. Most of the evaluations appreciate the "open" discussion format and the information and hand-outs provided. Clearly, this is a timely issue as the moderator mentioned some issues leading to hints of defensiveness and discomfort.

Meeting Room 3 “The Impact of Efforts to Reduce Airbag-related Deaths Among young Children: An Examination of Fatality Trends”



Moderator: Sami Richie

Description: This workshop looks at fatality trends among younger (0-3) and older children (4-12), before and after 1996, when nationwide programs were implemented to reduce air bag related deaths.

Presenter: Dr. James Nichols is the former Director of the Office of Research and Traffic Records at NHTSA HQ. He has 35 years of experience with impaired driving, occupant protection, and child passenger safety issues.

Comments: Dr. Nichols is very humble in his biography, as he is well known for his research in many areas of traffic safety. The research he presented was a very important study which most evaluations reflected, however, several attendees (there were 35 in attendance) cannot relate such information to their local programs. The planning committee feels it is important, however, to let the CPS community know that things are happening in the area of research to support the programs and events that we run every day.

Meeting Room 5/6 “Preventing Injury During Car Seat Installations”

Moderator:

Description: This presentation focused on how to prevent potential injuries which can occur during car seat installations. They include a review of proper body mechanics which is typically used in this job and recommended warm up exercises to strengthen these mechanics.

Presenters: Lynda Carey, BS, OTR/L and Christine Rogan, MS, OTR/L are presently employed as occupational therapists at St. Mary’s Hospital for Children in Bayside, New York. Lynda is currently Clinical Manager of Occupational Therapy and Christine is Senior Occupational Therapist. They are trained in proper body mechanics which they incorporate in their roles as Child Passenger Safety Technicians.

Comments: This was a first for our conference, a workshop to address the source of injuries sustained during child seat events. The presenters did exactly that, and provided some great stretching exercises to avoid such injuries. Everyone had fun at this workshop.

Meeting Room 7/8 “Child Safety Seat Distribution Programs”

Moderator: Margaret Beers

Description: This workshop will cover the various aspects of conducting and managing child passenger safety programs to the low-income population. Additionally, a member of the Ulster County Sheriff's Office will provide information on how to operate a child seat distribution program for this population. Applicants must meet eligibility requirements to receive a “free” child restraint.

Presenter: Bill Van Alstyne is the Program Director for the Albany County Department of Public Works – Traffic Safety Education Program. He has been involved in CPS since 1992 and started Albany County's Low-income Child Safety Seat Distribution Program in 1996. He has been as CPS Instructor since 1998 and has completed the Special Needs program and the CPS School Bus program.

Deborah Prusack is currently a certified CPS Instructor in New York State. She has 5 years of CPS experience and extensive knowledge of the CPS grant activities. She has 28 years of service with the Ulster County Sheriff's Office. She is dedicated to Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) and the safety of children.

Comments: There were 25 in attendance. Evaluations virtually all mentioned the interaction between the presenters and the audience and the pertinence of the material presented. There were many questions fielded by both presenters.

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CPS REGIONAL CONFERENCE WILDWOOD 2006 FINAL EVALUATION STATS

1 TO 5, 5 BEING THE BEST!

	1	2	3	4	5
This conference met my expectations:	5	10	40	114	103
Usefulness of information presented:	2	13	26	113	119
Panelists' subject of knowledge:	0	0	9	106	157
Overall quality:	2	11	29	112	119

(Numbers are actual counts of responses)

273 evaluations returned

How did you most benefit from this conference?

207: GREAT PRESENTATIONS

77: NETWORKING

1 WORKSHOP: SMARTER DRIVERS-SAFER STREETS

2 WORKSHOP: BACKSEAT BULLETS

8: NO COMMENTS

Other comments:

LOCATION: 6 ENJOYED THE LOCATION, 12 DID NOT.

FOOD: 22 WANTED FRUIT AT BREAKFAST, 5 WANTED DESSERT AND WATER.

58: NO COMMENT

25: more topics

22: more hands-on

17: wanted more vendors and exhibitors (jackets, shirts, hats, and safety seats)

12: wanted more workshops repeated

11: wanted more information on Safe Kids Update

9: continue recertification at conference

8: wanted more non-technical workshops

8: wanted more Crash and Traffic investigation workshops

7: thought the workshops were redundant from previous years

6: loved the location

6: wanted more information on new car seats

6: wanted more special needs information

5: wanted more stats

5: wanted more workshops on the Instructor Trac

5: wanted a workshop on funding sources

4: enjoyed the AtlantiCare exhibit

4: more information on "Tweeners"

4: more workshops on EMT information

3: wanted longer workshops (45 min.- hours)

3: wanted ½ daylonger for more workshops

3: wanted pens

3: wanted grant training

3: wanted airbag information