# The Wisconsin



# Responder

**WisDOT's TIME Program Quarterly Newsletter** 

Summer 2021

wisconsindot.gov/time



Mike's Minute



MICHAEL JUNGBLUTH

Hello everyone! Summer continues to be very busy for the ETO/TIME team. We have returned to the office on a part-time basis, but continue to conduct most of our training and meetings in a virtual environment. Inhouse TIM training continues across the state with the use of FHWA's online TIM training to fill the gaps. Many agencies are beginning to consider offering in-person training opportunities for 2022. Please consider planning early, as 65 to 70 percent of our TIM training is done in the first six months of the year.

As you can see from the latest FHWA statistics, we are at

43.6 percent trained. The National goal is currently 45 percent, but the FHWA will increase that to 50 percent by the end of 2021. Let's continue to push forward with the training opportunities that make the most sense: In-House, Online or In-Person.

Thank you for continuing to serve...stay safe, Mike

Disciplines	Trained	Remaining to Be Trained
Law Enforcement	7,040	4,162
Fire/Rescue	7,109	10,457
Towing and Recovery	439	606
EMS	885	4,363
Transportation/Public Works	1,219	2,177
Other Disciplines	631	610
Total	17,323	22,375

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## **Crash Responder Safety Week**

The WisDOT ETO/TIME team has been preparing for the upcoming Crash Responder Safety Week (CRSW), formerly known as National Traffic Incident Response Awareness Week, being held from November 8-14, 2021. As in years past, WisDOT and the TIME program are supporting this effort to remind motorists nationwide of the dangers responders face every day while working in or around live traffic.

CRSW is a chance for all responder communities to make a difference individually and jointly by teaching each other, and the motoring public, about our common goals and responsibility to one another. In Wisconsin, WisDOT and our first responder agencies and organizations are marking CRSW with:

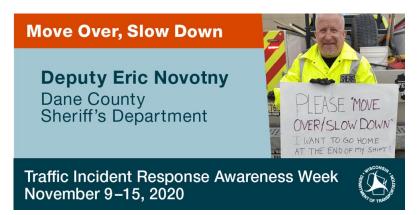
- Governor's Proclamation
- Targeted DMS messaging
- Ride-along opportunities
- Video sharing

- Social media campaigns
- Regional TIME meetings
- Special exercise activities
- First Responder experiences

In 2020, WisDOT highlighted "six" first responder experiences via social media. Those that participated were...

- Firefighter James Matthews
- Firefighter Chad Hirte
- Deputy Benjamin Cmelak
- Deputy Eric Novotny
- Tow Truck Drivers Todd Menzel & John Van

We are in the process of doing this again for 2021.



## App for First Responders: PulsePoint AED



PulsePoint AED is a simple-to-use app that enables you to help build the public AED registry in your community – or anywhere! When a cardiac emergency strikes, finding an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) can help save a life. But that takes knowing where AEDs are located.

AEDs that are managed using PulsePoint AED are accessible to emergency dispatchers and disclosed to emergency responders, including nearby citizens trained in CPR and off-duty professionals such as

firefighters, paramedics, and nurses. Instead of asking the caller if there is an AED available, dispatch center staff can inform callers of nearby lifesaving devices.

The app is free and available on iOS and Android mobile devices. PulsePoint is a public, non-profit organization providing the app and hosted AED registry for free as part of its core mission to improve cardiac arrest survival. Let's save some lives together.

Remember: CPR provided immediately after sudden cardiac arrest can double or triple a person's chance of survival, and providing a therapeutic shock from an AED further increases that rate.

#### iPhones and iPads

Download it from The Apple App Store.



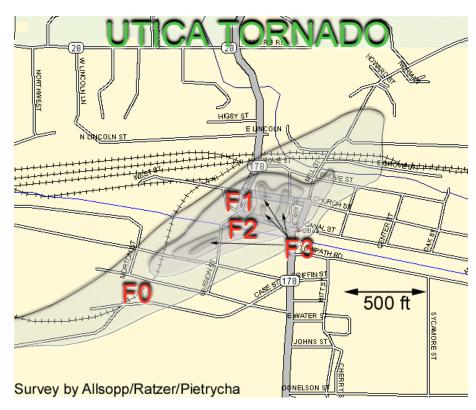
# Android Phones and Tablets Download it from The Google Play Stee

Download it from The Google Play Store.

### **Lessons Learned for TIM First Responders**

As first responders, we always strive to effectively and efficiently resolve problems. We do this by defining the problem; determining the cause of the problem; identifying, prioritizing, and selecting alternatives for a solution; and implementing a solution. We then take the time to evaluate our response and make improvements via self-correction. Often times, lessons-learned are a byproduct of these evaluations. Lessons learned provide a powerful method of sharing ideas for improving work processes, operation, quality, safety and cost effectiveness, etc. and helps improve decision making and worker performance through every phase of a TIM response.

As part of our future newsletters, we will share lessons learned from various incidents from the State of Wisconsin and across the Country.



**SUMMARY:** The failure to establish a Unified Command Structure early in a multi-agency response can undermine emergency operations.

DESCRIPTION: On April 20, 2004 a tornado (F-3) collapsed a building in Utica, Illinois, trapping fifteen people in its basement. Fire department officers immediately designated a fire station located directly across the incident site as the Incident Command Post (ICP). However, the fire station's confined location and immediate proximity to the incident made it ill-suited for directing the large-scale response effort. As police officers arrived on the scene, they elected to establish their command post at a nearby school, which was further removed from the immediate response activities.

As response operations progressed and a mobile command vehicle became available, the ICP was moved to an area just north of the fire station. This

allowed other agencies involved, such as the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and the emergency medical services, to operate near the Fire Department and Incident Commander. The Police Department continued to operate from the school, isolated from all other responding agencies throughout the course of the response.

The failure to establish a Unified Command Structure resulted in miscommunication and confusion. For example, a helicopter requested by the Police Department arrived at the scene without the Incident Commander's direction or knowledge. Poor communication also made it especially difficult to establish initial security perimeters. Eventually, the Police and Fire Departments swapped radios so they could monitor each other's radio traffic. They also established hourly face-to-face meetings for collaboration and updates. These ad hoc remedies alleviated some of the initial problems. However, miscommunication continued to plague response operations.

According to the after-action report on the incident, incident commanders need to create Unified Command Structures promptly in a multi-agency response to an emergency. This will help to reduce problems of miscommunication and confusion between response agencies.

CITATION: Mutual Aid Box Alarm System. Utica Tornado Statewide Plan Activation: Assessment and Critique, October 2004.

## **TIME Program Is Accepting Applications for TIM Instructors**



Do you believe the proper application of TIM principles at an incident scene makes all responders safer? Do you believe that TIM principles result in the quicker clearance of an incident? Do you want to teach your fellow responders these valuable tools? Then the TIME program would like you to join their ranks of instructors. The program currently has 170 TIME trained instructors from every region of the state, but we can always use more – the more diverse the instructor pool, the better the training for the responders.

The requirements for becoming and remaining a TIME program Instructor are 1.) You must attend the eight-hour FHWA "Train-the-Trainer" instructor program, and 2.) You are

asked to teach at least one four-hour responder class per year (to remain current with the material).

All of the TIM instructors are 100 percent volunteer. The program does not have any funds available to compensate instructors for their time or travel. That is why we value their dedication to the program. They are volunteering their time for one reason, to teach fellow responders how to make an incident scene the safest possible. We always try and have two instructors from different disciplines at each four-hour class, with one of the instructors being from the discipline of the requesting agency. That's why we need a large pool of instructors from all corners of the state.

There is no cost to attend the training. The TIME program will provide lunch and all teaching materials. Please consider becoming a TIM instructor. It can be very rewarding!

The class/location is scheduled for **Saturday**, **October 16**, **2021**, at the **Portage County Sheriff's Office in Stevens Point from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** Please submit an <u>application</u> to attend the training. The class is limited to 25 students.

### **TIME Program Update: After Action Reviews**

Since 2016, the TIME program has conducted 31 after-action reviews (AAR) of extended duration incidents that have occurred on our Interstate and state highway systems. On June 23, 2021, the ETO/TIME team conducted two AAR's with the assistance from WisDOT-Division of Transportation System Development (DTSD), Wisconsin State Patrol (WSP) and first responders from Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS, Highway Department and Towing.

**2021-01 (Virtual):** Traffic Crashes with fatal and CMV/Mitigation Efforts - 4/21/2021 on I-41 in Washington County **2021-02 (In-Person/Virtual at Monroe County HD):** Double fatal with CMV - 5/25/2021 on I-90/94 at MM 46.6 in Monroe County

As a quick refresher, these reviews are not designed to assign blame, but are a professional discussion of an incident that enables first responders to discover for themselves what happened, why it happened, and how to sustain strengths and improve on weaknesses. They should provide candid insights into strengths and weaknesses from various perspectives and feedback, while enhancing understanding of circumstances that impact team (first responder) performance and how to work better in the future. Simply, it is essential for first responders to learn from their mistakes and to capitalize on their successes.

Often times, the price we pay for our inability to recognize an "opportunity for improvement" can be exceptionally high and the amount of effort put into our successes is often left unrecognized. The objective of the AAR is to immediately identify these success and challenges. Once they have been recognized, further exploration allows our first responders to perfect their skills and be better prepared for future incidents.

The participants made both of these AAR's successful by doing the following: (1) Developed an understanding of what actually happened, (2) Identified what worked, what didn't work and why, and (3) Identified specific actionable items for improvement.

A short one-page report is being completed for each review.



# 2021 Fall Regional TIME Meeting Schedule



October 20, 2021 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Southwest Region Microsoft Teams Meeting



October 27, 2021 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. North Central Region Microsoft Teams Meeting



October 28, 2021 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Northwest Region Microsoft Teams Meeting



November 9, 2021 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Northeast Region Microsoft Teams Meeting



November 11, 2021 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Southeast Region Microsoft Teams Meeting

The meeting links and agendas will be sent out a week before the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting in your region, please feel free to join another region's TIME meeting. We look forward to your participation!

# **Special Events and Conferences**

#### September 2021

Preparedness Month
Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over National Mobilization (8/16-9/6)
Child Passenger Safety Week (9/19-9/25)
Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Conference (9/24-9/25)

#### October 2021

Wisconsin Towns Association Conference (10/10-10/12)
National Move Over Day (10/16)
Wisconsin EMS Association Conference (10/28-10/30)

#### November 2021

Snowplow Driver Appreciation Day (TBD)
Crash Responder Safety Week (11/8-11/14)
Winter Awareness Week (11/15-11/19)

#### December 2021

Impaired Driving Prevention Month

#### January 2022

**Human Trafficking Awareness Month** 

#### February 2022

Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Conference (2/6-2/9)
Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association Conference (2/13-2/16)

#### March 2022

Flood Safety Awareness Week (TBD)
Wisconsin State Firefighters Association Conference (3/10-3/12)

#### **April 2022**

National Work Zone Awareness Week (4/26-4/30) Tornado & Severe Weather Awareness Week (TBD)

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