

**DTAC –
Driver Trainers
Advisory Committee**

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Southern Humboldt
Unified School District

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Fortuna Union
High School District

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Northern Humboldt Unified
School District

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School District

Jodi Williamson
CRIB Headstart

Linda Wilson
Eureka City Schools

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You Are Feeling Sleepy



National Transportation Safety Board Chairman, Deborah A.P. Hersman, today encouraged the sleep research and healthcare community to continue their efforts to educate transportation policy makers of the dangers of fatigue in all modes of transportation.

Speaking before the annual conference of the National Sleep Foundation in Washington, D.C., Chairman Hersman remarked that fatigue has been a concern for the Board since the creation of the agency in 1967 and it has been an issue on the Board's Most Wanted List of Transportation Safety Improvements since the list was established in 1990.

"The work of the National Sleep Foundation and other organizations and individuals is critical to improving transportation safety policy," said Chairman Hersman. "The NTSB is interested and willing to partner with you in developing a greater awareness of fatigue."

Hersman highlighted a number of accident investigations across all transportation modes that included fatigue as the probable cause or a contributing factor to accidents. As a result, the Board has made safety recommendations that range from deploying fatigue detection systems to reduce the occurrence of accidents to installing electronic on-board recorders that collect and maintain hours of service data on vehicle operators.

"We can't always prove fatigue as a cause of an accident, but the frequency with which we now routinely document the presence of fatigue-related factors in transportation operations is alarming," Hersman stated.

Hersman remarked that while there are still no definitive tools to conclusively identify the degree to which a person is fatigued, the major challenge is to ensure that all those in transportation report to work rested and fit for duty - for their own safety and for the safety of those they are transporting.

Just to make you go ... HMMMMMMM

- The tune for the "A-B-C" song is the same as "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star."
- No word in the English Dictionary rhymes with "MONTH."
- Donald Duck comics were banned from Finland because he doesn't wear pants.
- It is impossible to lick your elbow.

NTSB Press Release 3/5/10 (SB-10-06)

Move Over/Slow Down (SB 159, Simitian)

In case you missed this at the beginning of the year, the new law requires a person driving a vehicle on a freeway and approaching in a lane immediately adjacent to a stationary, authorized emergency vehicle that displays emergency lights, or a stationary tow truck that displays flashing amber warning lights, to safely make a lane change from that lane, or slow to a reasonable speed. Current law requires tow trucks used to tow disabled vehicles to be equipped with flashing amber warning lamps and authorizes tow trucks to display flashing amber warning lights while providing service to a disabled vehicle. However, this section prohibits tow trucks from displaying flashing amber warning lights on a freeway except when an unusual traffic hazard or extreme hazard exists.

DOT OFFICE OF DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY AND COMPLIANCE NOTICE

Recently, the Department of Justice (DOJ) issued guidelines for Federal prosecutors in states that have enacted laws authorizing the use of "medical marijuana." <http://www.justice.gov/opa/documents/medical-marijuana.pdf>

We have had several inquiries about whether the DOJ advice to Federal prosecutors regarding pursuing criminal cases will have an impact upon the Department of Transportation's longstanding regulation about the use of marijuana by safety-sensitive transportation employees – pilots, school bus drivers, truck drivers, train engineers, subway operators, aircraft maintenance personnel, transit fire-armed security personnel, ship captains, and pipeline emergency response personnel, among others.

We want to make it perfectly clear that the DOJ guidelines will have no bearing on the Department of Transportation's regulated drug testing program. We will not change our regulated drug testing program based upon these guidelines to Federal prosecutors.

The Department of Transportation's Drug and Alcohol Testing Regulation – 49 CFR Part 40, at 40.151(e) – does not authorize "medical marijuana" under a state law to be a valid medical explanation for a transportation employee's positive drug test result.

That section states:

§ 40.151 What are MROs prohibited from doing as part of the verification process?

As an MRO, you are prohibited from doing the following as part of the verification process:

- (e) You must not verify a test negative based on information that a physician recommended that the employee use a drug listed in Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act. (e.g., under a state law that purports to authorize such recommendations, such as the "medical marijuana" laws that some states have adopted.)

Therefore, Medical Review Officers will not verify a drug test as negative based upon information that a physician recommended that the employee use "medical marijuana." Please note that marijuana remains a drug listed in Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act. It remains unacceptable for any safety-sensitive employee subject to drug testing under the Department of Transportation's drug testing regulations to use marijuana.

We want to assure the traveling public that our transportation system is the safest it can possibly be.

Jim L. Swart
Director
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
Office of Drug and Alcohol
Policy and Compliance
Department of Transportation
October 22, 2009



Dan Pires from Eureka City Schools developed this form for CHP terminal inspections. He has graciously volunteered to share this with other districts.

Transportation Department

RE: Drug & Alcohol Testing for: _____ (Year)

Annual Summary of DOT testing for _____ (District)

Compiled by : _____ (Your name)

DOT rules require employers to keep quarterly and annual reports of the Drug & Alcohol testing performed on employees that are subject to DOT testing. This form is meant to meet those requirements. This form shall be included with the final annual report of the consortium at the end of each year.

1st Quarter:

Number of drivers in pool: _____
 Number of Alcohol Test: _____ Results _____
 Number of Random Drug Test: _____ Results _____
 Number of Pre-employment Drug Test: _____ Results _____
 Number of "For Cause" Drug Test: _____ Results _____

2nd Quarter:

Number of drivers in pool: _____
 Number of Alcohol Test: _____ Results _____
 Number of Random Drug Test: _____ Results _____
 Number of Pre-employment Drug Test: _____ Results _____
 Number of "For Cause" Drug Test: _____ Results _____

3rd Quarter:

Number of drivers in pool: _____
 Number of Alcohol Test: _____ Results _____
 Number of Random Drug Test: _____ Results _____
 Number of Pre-employment Drug Test: _____ Results _____
 Number of "For Cause" Drug Test: _____ Results _____

4th Quarter:

Number of drivers in pool: _____
 Number of Alcohol Test: _____ Results _____
 Number of Random Drug Test: _____ Results _____
 Number of Pre-employment Drug Test: _____ Results _____
 Number of "For Cause" Drug Test: _____ Results _____

If you have any ideas or recent projects you would like to share, please contact Kim Comet at kcomet@humboldt.k12.ca.us or (707) 445-7067

If you do not wish to receive the Safety Zone, please send an email to kcomet@humboldt.k12.ca.us with your name and district.

Safety ZONE

NEWSLETTER FOR BUS DRIVERS



Volume 9, Number 4



With a Little Help from Our Friends

Most people are more than willing to offer assistance. Even though they are well intentioned, do not accept assistance in regards to your duties as a school bus driver. We have had a few instances this year where bus drivers were "assisted" and it resulted in school bus accidents.

When the volunteers were "helping" the school bus drivers by guiding them how much room they had to back up, they were looking at the curb and saying, "keep coming, keep coming" while failing to look overhead. After the bus hit the awning or side of a building or tree branch the volunteer than would say "OK, that is far enough."

Remember, you are the professional; you are responsible for parking the bus. The person who is "helping" has not had the hours of training that you have had.

INSERVICE CLASSES

Original/Renewal Classes Available

Contact your state certified or delegated trainers for additional training dates and activities

So. Humboldt Unified: Donna Anderson (707) 943-3648
Fortuna Union High: Barbara Lake (707) 725-4461, ext 3097
No. Humboldt Union: Sarah Goodwin (707) 825-2434
Arcata: Carol Grimes (707) 822-2614
Del Norte Unified: Carlina Horn (707) 464-0250
Klamath-Trinity Joint Unified: Tiffany James (530) 625-5600, ext 2
Humboldt County Office of Ed.: Tom McGinnis (707) 445-7089
McKinleyville Union: Scott Oilar (707) 839-2584
Eureka City Schools: Linda Wilson (707) 441-2503



Mark your calendars!!!

We know you are already looking forward to the 2010/2011 school year.

The Fall CASTO Workshop will be August 16th at McKinleyville High School

Information will be distributed before the end of this school year. If you have any questions please contact Sarah Goodwin @ 825-2434 or sgoodwin@nohum.k12.ca.us