



SOUTH CENTRAL SAFE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Pelican Room, South Central Planning and Development Commission
5058 West Main Street, Houma LA 70390

Minutes of the Meeting

Part 1 - Partnership Meeting Part 2 - CPS Technicians Forum
Thursday, February 16, 2012 at 9:30 AM to 12:00 Noon

In Attendance: (33)

Greg Hood Sr., ADAC
Rudynah Capone, SCPDC
Leo Marretta, SCPDC
Craig Poche, St. James SO
Earl Geason, St. James SO
Dustin Poche, St. James SO
Anthony Joseph, St. James SO
Bridget Gardner, LPSTF
Emery Chauvin III, DOTD
Dennis Hebert, DOTD
Mark Adams, LPSO

Darrin Naquin, LSP Troop C
Evan Harrell, LSP Troop C
Marilyn Harris, SCLHSA-OPH
Greg Maurin, St. John DA
Jamey Fontenot, Thibodaux PD
Brandy Jarreau, LOSGH
Alicia Toups, ADAC
Jason Kibodeaux, TPSO
Terri Monaghan, DOTD
Bruce Prejean, APSO
Murphy Melancon, LPSO

Tina Ledet, Houma PD
Bobbie O'Bryan, Houma PD
Daniel Belanger, Houma PD
Keith Faul, Terrebonne SO
Jefferey Jackson, Houma PD
Michael Toups, Houma PD
l'ana Joseph, Town of Lutcher
Dwan Bowser, Town of Lutcher
Louis Toups, LSP Troop C
Josephine Rodrigue, MADD
Steve Tullis, NSU PD

PART 1 - PARTNERSHIP MEETING

1. Call to Order

Chairman Greg Hood Sr. called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

2-3. Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance

Brandy Jarreau said the Opening Prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Lt. Steve Tullis.

4. Introductions

Chairman Hood asked everyone to introduce themselves. Twenty-eight (29) partners attended Part 1 of the meeting, plus 4 more joined in during Part 2 of the meeting—a total of 33.

5. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings

Vice Chairman Craig Poche made a motion to approve the minutes from previous meetings held on November 17, 2011 and January 11, 2012, seconded by Lt. Bobbie O'Bryan. No discussions. Motion carried.

6. Feedback: Previous Events

a. Christmas & New Year's Holiday Enforcement efforts

Capt. Darrin Naquin shared that Troop C had 6 fatalities in December. A couple of them were alcohol-related. They had a few seatbelt checkpoints and got good media exposure. They just conducted a productive checkpoint last week with Houma PD and Terrebonne SO. Fatalities went down from 7 and 8 in 2009 and 2010, respectively, to 6 fatalities this year. Houma PD had 3 fatalities in November. Capt. Naquin added that although the numbers for December weren't great, overall fatalities went down in the last three years. Capt. Jamey Fontenot said that since Chief Scott Silverii came in, Thibodaux PD implemented a big DWI effort. In three years, they average 27 DWI arrests. Just for 2011, they made 198 arrests. No vehicle fatalities. They continued their DWI enforcement last December particularly No Refusal Policy 24/7. They just recently started with their nighttime seatbelt checkpoints in addition to their regular DWI nighttime checkpoints.

Lt. Mark Adams shared that LPSO won the Overall DWI Award for the fourth time now, with 249 arrests for the whole department and Derek Champagne (Individual Award) making 44 arrests for 2011. Capt. Bruce Prejean mentioned about how some judges in Assumption are not on board with No Refusal. APSO is planning to do more DWI enforcement/saturated patrol in problematic areas. Lt. Earl Geason said St. James had one fatality a week ago on Highway 20. The driver was distracted. They also did DWI saturation patrols over the holidays. Greg Maurin shared that St. John SO tried doing the checkpoint on a weekday afternoon. The number wasn't high but they had a couple DWI arrests in mid-afternoon.

b. "A Day of Service" MLK CPS events by ADAC

Alicia Toups shared that they partnered with the Catholic Charities to conduct a child seat checkup during a two-day service to commemorate Martin Luther King Day. The first day was in Holy Rosary Church in Houma where they checked 11 child seats, of which 8 were replaced. The second day was in Sacred Heart Church in Morgan City where they checked 20 seats, of which 6 were replaced. R. Capone referred all to Tab 6B of the meeting packet to read the press release about the event.

c. Super Bowl Enforcement efforts – No feedback

7. Sudden Impact Program

Bridget Gardner (from LSU Trauma Center in New Orleans & LPSTF) was invited to speak about this program. She commended how our region sustains an active membership and how we're doing things. She shared the following significant info about the Sudden Impact Program:

- It was developed 14 years ago at the LSU Trauma Center in New Orleans. They immediately began a partnership with LSP.
- It is usually conducted in a hospital for about 7 ½ to 8 hours.
- What message are the participants getting? Don't Drink and Drive. Wear Your Seatbelt. Don't Text and Drive. Etcetera... coupled with different perspectives from state police to medical to trauma victim, and then visitation in both the ICU bedside and emergency room. It's pre-tested, post-tested and it's follow-up-tested to see if they're on target with the teens. It demands a little bit of partnership, much time and energy.
- Current participating hospitals: Lakeview, St. Tammany, Our Lady of the Lake, LSU and Chabert
- The statewide team plans to keep things going in our area in the Spring semester
- Sophomore level is the target of this program (30 students at a time) - 86% of the teens are not aware of what the definition of DWI is. 99% gets it after undertaking the program
- 13 schools are currently participating, 2 days a week – Each community does the program differently to match their needs. They feel that moving it from seniors/juniors to sophomores, they're hitting their target.
- In 14 years, there has been ZERO death among those kids who attended the program. It's 70% alcohol-related, the rest is seatbelts and a little bit of cellphone use.
- Computers/equipment is provided for the hospitals to implement this program. It only entails commitment and personnel availability.
- Goal: Get Chabert up and going again in collaboration with Troop C's new PIO Evan Harrell. They're working with Vanderbilt High School to do a mock crash before end of the school year.
- LERN (Louisiana Emergency Response Network) is going for their injury prevention efforts to help with traffic safety. Contact the regional coordinator, Yvetter Legendre, RN. If you're a trauma center, you'll be mandated to participate in injury prevention activities.
- Recommendation: Get more participation from the healthcare agencies which are an important component in Sudden Impact Program. This is our missing link. They need to start coming to our meetings, traffic summits, etc.
- Recently addressed the parents, which is more than 50% of the problem. How do you get the parents? Mock Crash for Adults.
- Involvement with DWI Task Force for Southeast and GHSA – education and enforcement
- A statewide training is available to help hospitals do the Sudden Impact. This program isn't anything that you can integrate into a health or PE Class.
- LSU Trauma Center is willing to train and provide the equipment for our region.

8. Upcoming Events & Media Campaigns

a. Regional CPS checkup events

A. Toups reiterated about how the Catholic Charities wanted to do the MLK CPS events again next year. She also mentioned about how ADAC has done six (6) seat checks since January 31, 2012. Bringing awareness to the public is significant. We have fittings stations such as Troop C and Lady of the Sea GH. In regards to this regional initiative, she encouraged partners to pitch in an idea for a CPS event throughout the year. The challenge is to get CPS technicians to support the event. She also shared that ADAC still has child seats to distribute. To date, they've given 12 to APSO, 18 to St. James SO, 5 to TPSO, 2 to Chabert, 10 to Lady of the Sea GH and 6 to LPSO, which were distributed at CPS events. ADAC has issued 6 seats as a fitting station. The next batch of seats will be purchased as soon as the remaining ones from last year are disbursed. SCSCP has allocated \$2,000 to purchase child seats for FFY 2012 CPS events.

Brandy Jarreau announced that LOSGH will be conducting a CPS event on March 10th at Wal-Mart in Cut Off (8 a.m. to 12 noon and 1:00-3:00 p.m.), which is the first event in 5 years. She invited CPS technicians to help out. Booster seats are an issue down the bayou. G. Hood announced that he's working on getting a law passed that expired/recalled seats would never be used anymore, otherwise they get penalized. Discussion further ensued.

Keith Faul shared that Wal-Mart has contacted him and requested for educational type of presentation or display during their Baby Week on March 2, 2012. Discussion ensued.

Lt. O'Bryan brought up an issue on how there's no instructor to sign off the seats being checked at various CPS events which Houma PD's CPS techs has extended assistance for. B. Gardner agreed that this is a huge obstacle here. LPSTF has momentarily authorized Bryan Zeringue and Sgt. Matt Trahan to sign off seats. Our region has two CPS techs pursuing instructorship – Michael Toups (HPD) and Murphy Melancon (LPSO). More of this issue will be discussed at the CPS Techs Forum which will take place immediately after this meeting. A. Toups added that ADAC is holding the Alcohol and Drug Free Zone during the Mardi Gras Parade.

b. St. Patrick's Impaired Driving Campaign

R. Capone referred all to Tab 8B of the meeting packet which has the press release sample that the partners can use during the St. Patrick's Day Campaign.

c. April 3-4, 212 Destination Zero Safety Summit

R. Capone announced that DOTD will hold their Safety Summit on April 3-4, 2012. Terri Monaghan invited all to register for FREE as soon as possible as seats fill up quickly. Over 200 participants have registered so far. It will tackle both highway and railway safety. She also encouraged agencies to join the poster contest – refer to Tab 8C for details. Deadline for submission of entries is March 16th. A pair of fatal vision goggles will be given away to winning agency.

d. April 2012 – National Distracted Awareness Month

Despite distracted driving not being in our regional plan's emphasis areas, our coalition still supports the statewide Distracted Driving Task Force's efforts in promoting cellphone-free driving—"Don't Text and Drive" education and enforcement. R. Capone encouraged all to spread the safety message during the National Distracted Awareness Month in April 2012.

e. May 14 to June 3, 2012 Click it Or Ticket Mobilization

R. Capone referred all to Tab 8E to view the Click it or Ticket Mobilization timelines. Earned Media will run from May 7 to June 14, while Enforcement takes place on May 21 to June 3, 2012.

f. June 25-29, 2012 – Teen CERT

Lt. O'Bryan explained about the all-week Teen Certified Emergency Response Team (CERT) five-day training which is scheduled on June 25-29, 2012 in Bunkie. LPSO, Houma PD and Office of Homeland Security are the main organizers of this camp that targets youth participants from all 64 Parishes, in collaboration with Safe Community partner agencies. Teen CERT started in 2010 which merely focused on emergency response topics but it was just last year when they added an element of highway safety into the whole program wherein they brought in DWI training as well as safety displays by Wal-Mart, ADAC and MAC.

Louisiana's Teen CERT was recognized as the second place nationally, next to Arkansas. This year, the program hopes to add the Sudden Impact Program for two to three days besides doing the comprehensive highway safety training and Teen CERT training in itself. The Coast Guard will also be giving their support to teach water safety. Budweiser will sponsor.

Lt. O'Bryan added that they're also trying to get LHSC to adopt Teen CERT as a hit summer program targeting teenagers from across Louisiana. He invited agencies to spread the word to church, school and community-based youth groups to join the program. They target 100 participants. He's asking agencies that are interested in participating to contact him.

9. 2012 Mini-Grant Awards & Safety Commodities

R. Capone referred to Tab 9 to see the list of agencies that got approved for Safe Community Mini-Grants and how much funds they're getting. They are as follows:

ADAC	- \$1,500 for safety commodities for "Get in the Zone Program"
Bayou Region MAC	- \$1,220 for safety commodities for motorcycle awareness campaigns
APSO	- \$2,000 for officer hours for Overtime DWI Enforcement
Our Lady of the Sea GH-	\$1,280 for safety commodities at "Safety Circus"
St. John DA	- \$2,000 for instructor's fees for DWI/substance abuse classes
St. James SO	- \$2,000 for officer hours for Occupant Protection Enforcement
SCSCP/ADAC	- \$2,000 for child seats for Regional CPS Events
<u>Safety Cushion</u>	<u>- \$1,452 for potential projects that may come up within 2012</u>
TOTAL	-\$13,440.00

She reminded all partners to pick up the safety commodities that are to be distributed at various safety events/media campaigns.

10. Plans for Traffic Safety Summit – September 27, 2012

R. Capone confirmed that this year's regional traffic safety summit is scheduled on September 27, 2012 at Houma Terrebonne Civic Center. For the past 9 years, it's been held at NSU, but as agreed at our previous meeting, the coalition decided to explore other venues and hold them alternately so. TPCG is co-sponsoring the event and has agreed to waive fees for rental and equipment usage. She asked the members to bring up suggestions for summit speakers and topics.

G. Hood suggested that they invite Bridget Gardner to speak on CPS and Sudden Impact. B. Gardner affirmed she'd be happy to do so. Other topics suggested are: legislative updates from both DOTD & LHSC; the regional safety plan update; year-end review on Safe Community efforts; DDACTS by TBD Chief Scott Silverii and Lt. Mike Beck. G. Hood encouraged agencies if they have anything to set up—a trailer or rollover perhaps—for educational value, feel free to contribute.

L. Marretta affirmed that we ought to step up in bringing in our outdoor educational displays now that we have the parking space to accommodate so. This is an opportunity to expand our target participants. Further discussion ensued.

11. South Central Regional Transportation Safety Plan (SCRSTP) Update

R. Capone referred all to Tab 11 to see the minutes from the previous meetings. She shared that the SCRTSP's Infrastructure & Operations Subcommittee is working with LTAP to finalize the regional projects for the Local Road Safety Program (LRSP). High-crash locations were identified based on data and at the last meeting, the list was narrowed down based on what each parish's priorities are. A follow-up meeting and Road Safety Assessment (RSA) Training is scheduled on March 7, 2012 to determine the specific countermeasures to apply to improve the local streets and intersections. She invited all partners to get involved in the RSA process as it's supposed to be a multidisciplinary effort.

As for the non-infrastructure subcommittees, she added that a meeting was held last week to review all the programs stipulated in the SCRTSP, identify which ones are currently funded & which ones still require more resources for implementation. Projects were ranked and determined for further actions. Recommendations are found on Tab 11 of the meeting packet.

L. Marretta commented that in the course of this last quarter, meetings were held to move forward with our safety plan's action items that were adopted late last year. In the plan, we reflect the funding sources to our prioritized projects. He mentioned about how most of the projects in our region are materialized with the use of local match. He encouraged partners to share their ideas on how we can resolve those programs that require funding. He also invited them to extend their involvement in the engineering efforts and send in reps to the RSA Training. Further coordination is necessary.

12. Parish/Agency Reports and Comments

St. James SO

Lt. Earl Geason shared about their Mardi Gras Parade enforcement.

Assumption SO

Capt. Bruce Prejean said that they're also doing their Mardi Gras Parade enforcement on January 20th.

ADAC

A. Toups asked for assistance from a deputy (from either TPSO or Houma PD) to help them out with crowd control around the alcohol-and-drug-free zone to avoid confrontational scenarios with the public. Discussion ensued.

MADD

J. Rodrigue announced that their agency will do their Annual MADD Walk on May 5th at 7:30 a.m. around BREC Park in Baton Rouge. She invited partners to join the Team Lirette. Registration is \$20. If they can't join the walk, they can still give their donations.

Lafourche SO and Terrebonne SO

M. Adams (LPSO) and J. Kibodeaux both shared that the only thing they have coming up is their usual enforcement for Mari Gras parades.

LSP Troop C

Capt. Naquin shared that besides the parade enforcement, they're trying to set up their Bayou Region Safety Expo. They might still do it at Nicholls State University like last year. No definite date yet. They're exploring on other venues. Details will be released later once arrangements are finalized. G. Hood offered Houma Terrebonne Civic Center to be a potential venue Capt. Naquin then formally introduced their new PIO, Trooper Evan Harrell.

Houma PD

Sgt. Belanger shared that they've been doing their seatbelt enforcement survey in various locations. As of now, they're averaging 90% seatbelt compliance among adult drivers. Their agency has also been involved in Troop C's DWI checkpoint in Schriever. They're also stepping up with their heavy saturation patrols on weekends. Evan Harrell then informed everyone that there's a new iPhone App for DWI checkpoints. G. Hood asked if there's a chance to do a survey for texting and driving could also be done. Lt. O'Bryan added that two of their officers have just completed the EVOC training. Houma PD and LPSO are working together to have their 7-9 EVOC certified instructors conduct some type of law enforcement pursuit and driving techniques training. They're proposing that parish employees undergo defensive driving classes. They've scheduled a Defensive Driving Course on March 6, 2012 at the Houma Terrebonne Civic Center.

Thibodaux PD

Capt. J. Fontenot said that they're through with two of their five Mardi Gras parades and is continuing their DWI checkpoint efforts. In re: to DDACTS initiative, they're partnering with Lafourche Parish School Board and Bayou Council on Alcoholism to designate two safety zones for families during Mardi Gras. On Sunday, ATC is coming in to issue citations for underage drinking.

Bridget Gardner

She added that LSU Trauma Center serves 10 parishes across the state. She is looking forward to keeping the Sudden Impact Program going in our region and continuing to assist us with our CPS efforts.

13. Safety Concerns to Refer to DOTD

No safety concerns were brought up verbally. G. Maurin handed out one in written form. (*Refer to yellow sheet.*)

14. Other Business

No other business. **Next meeting is on May 17, 2012.**

15. Adjournment

Capt. Craig Poche made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 a.m., seconded by Lt. Earl Geason. Motion carried. All CPS technicians were requested to stay on for the CPS Techs Forum.

PART 2 - CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY (CPS) TECHNICIANS FORUM

1. Welcome & Introductions

R. Capone welcomed and thanked the CPS technicians for taking the time to attend this forum.

2. LPSTF Statewide Efforts Update

B. Gardner announced that the LPSTF created three subcommittees:

(1) Recertification Subcommittee - to address some issues such as the loss of our OPH Maternal and Child Health Coordinators who played an active role in CPS. As technicians finish the course, there seems to be continuity from the training itself to the next CPS event. They hope to bridge the gap, so they're implementing that instructors form their teams of techs to follow through.

(2) Fitting Station Subcommittee - LPSTF funded 30 agencies to be fitting station stations, 17 of them are compliant. Some of them have lost personnel, others are downright non-compliant. They hoped to be the reservoir of information so that they could justify continued funding. Fitting station issues will be addressed through this subcommittee.

(3) Special Needs Subcommittee – Our region has one Special Needs technician, Michael Toups of Houma PD. LPSTF is deciding whether or not to train more people for this area.

B. Gardner also informed everyone that the fitting station in-service is coming up. The statewide CEU conferences will be most likely in June (Baton Rouge and Alexandria), while the fitting station conference will be sometime in August. They're giving 45 child seats per region to be distributed during the National Passenger Safety Week events in September. She asked us to confirm location and time by end of May.

A booster seat event is also being planned. She suggested that we find the right agency partner (school, Head Start program) to identify these kids who are in the most need. She also brought up the matter about having child passenger safety part of the components for the statewide DOTD Zero Deaths Occupant Protection Task Force.

R. Capone referred all to Tab 2 of the forum packet to read more LPSTF updates.

3. SCSCP's CPS Event Accomplishments

R. Capone shared the accomplishments for the past year until January 2012: Ten (10) CPS events were conducted. Around 72 child seats were distributed. A. Toups confirmed that 77 were ordered and issued most of them to different partner agencies. The coalition has appointed a regional CPS coordinator, Bryan Zeringue, who is now with Weatherford International. Three new fitting stations were opened (Houma PD, St. James SO and ADAC). Lt. O'Bryan brought up the issue on how they didn't get any site visit and training after having applied as a fitting station. Discussion ensued.

4. Open Forum

B. Gardner suggested that Lt. O'Bryan get with her to discuss what Houma PD needs to become an official fitting station. The goal is to check eight to 12 child seats. As long as the agency is willing to dedicate a person and time of the week to check/install seats, LPSTF can outfit them with the necessary materials. A. Toups also said that there are still child seats left for distribution before she could purchase more for this year's consumption.

A. Toups brought up an issue on why we're not able to get the public to come down to our CPS event even if we promote them on newspapers, newsletters and radio stations. Discussion ensued on how to address this.

B. Gardner suggested that we reach out more to expectant parents, the hospitals (say, Terrebonne Medical Center and St. James Parish Hospital), pediatricians and Ob-Gyn practitioners. Make a list of these potential partners. M. Melancon said that LPSO is willing to help out circulate press releases for any events in the area. Lt. O'Bryan added that we target churches and community-based groups. Discussion further ensued.

The terminology "checkpoint" was also brought up as something that intimidates the public to show up at CPS events. Seeing cops in uniform is also intimidating. They fear that they might get a ticket if they get their seats checked.

B. Gardner expressed that the major obstacle between the state and our coalition is that one designated contact or "go-to" person who sends out important notifications to all CPS technicians. There are a lot of materials that need to reach to technicians at times. She said that CPS techs should be meeting quarterly. R. Capone responded that this issue was resolved already by appointing Bryan Zeringue as the Regional CPS Coordinator. Discussion ensued. The team agreed to have both R. Capone and A. Toups as designated contact persons.

5. Regional CPS Mini-Grant Initiative

R. Capone asked the team to brainstorm on potential locations and dates for the proposed CPS events presented by A. Toups earlier. Discussion ensued.

Lt. O'Bryan recommended some venues where we could potentially do CPS events. He mentioned that Houma usually holds the Downtown Bayou Festival in November. He also encouraged everyone to come to the Teen CERT. Capt. Ledet pointed out that we should send out information through the Neighborhood Watch to expand our awareness & outreach efforts. LPSO also mentioned about their billboard trailer that is made available for marketing and education purposes. The battery for the trailer lasts for 7 days.

The team is also considering to do a repeat event at Winn Dixie in Gramercy during the Click it or Ticket Mobilization period sometime in May 2012. It turned out to be a huge success last year. D. Poche will find out as to what date Winn Dixie can accommodate us this year.

The location and date for September National Seat Check Saturday event will be discussed later on.

6. St. John Fire Department & Lady of the Sea GH Events

R. Capone asked the CPS technicians who will be available on February 27 at 1-4 pm to assist St. John Parish Fire Department in their CPS checkup. They can contact B. Gardner for more info. A new flyer will be sent out. Also, Lady of the Sea GH will be doing their checkup at Wal-Mart in Cutoff from 8:00-11:00 a.m. and 12:00-3:00 P.M.

7. Plans for Click it or Ticket Mobilization & National Passenger Safety Week

This was discussed earlier by the team.

8. Other Business

No other business was brought up.

9. Adjournment/Lunch

T. Ledet made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:17 p.m., seconded by D. Poche. Motion carried.