



STATE OF MICHIGAN

GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION

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May 23, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Impaired Driving Action Team and its founder to receive award from Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission

The Michigan State Police (MSP) Third District's Impaired Driving Action Team (IMPACT) and the team's founder, Sgt. Troy Meder, are being recognized by the Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission (GTSAC) for increased impaired driving enforcement in Bay, Genesee and Saginaw Counties.

The IMPACT and Sergeant Meder will be honored during the Traffic Safety Awards Virtual Ceremony, via Microsoft Teams, at 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 24, 2022. The GTSAC recognizes organizations, programs and individuals for their involvement in traffic safety.

Nominated for an Outstanding Traffic Safety Achievement Award, the IMPACT and Sergeant Meder are commended for addressing and reducing the number of alcohol- and drug-impaired driving crashes in the MSP's Third District.

In 2019, Sergeant Meder, then a trooper, recognized an alarming trend and knew something needed to be done to address the substantial amount of impaired driving crashes. He decided upon a two-pronged approach that included aggressive impaired driving patrols and a public relations campaign to garner general deterrence. Sergeant Meder's proposal resulted in the newly formed IMPACT within the MSP Third District in July 2020.

The team consists of four enlisted members: Sgt. Ken Campbell, Tpr. Corbin Holt, Tpr. Dennis Lapan and Tpr. Blake Bitner.

"These members are highly motivated and continue to go above and beyond what was ever expected with the inception of the team," said D/Lt. Lizabeth Rich in nominating the team. "Their dedication to keeping our roadways safe by stopping impaired drivers is unprecedented by one team with so few members."

The formation of this specialized impaired patrol has proven beneficial in the enforcement of impaired driving arrests. Since the inception of the team, the members have arrested more impaired drivers than any other department in the counties of Bay, Saginaw and Genesee.

The GTSAC was formed in 2002 to serve as the state's forum for identifying key traffic safety challenges and developing and implementing plans to address those issues. The commission includes representatives from the MSP and the departments of Transportation, Education, State, and Health & Human Services, as well as the Office of the Governor, the Aging and Adult Services Agency, and the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning. There are also three representatives from local government appointed by the governor.

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Alicia Sledge, Office of Highway Safety Planning • Steven Kiefer, Governor's Office • Carol Reagan, Department of State •
• Gregg Brunner, Department of Transportation • Linda Scarpetta, Department of Health and Human Services • Maj. Ryan Pennell, Department of State
Police • Ashley Ellsworth, Health and Aging Services Agency
• William Miller, Local Representative • Chief Ronald Wiles, Local Representative • Sheriff Michael Poulin, Local Representative

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