

**“Research Into Practice –
Checkpoint Strikeforce”**

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Recent Impaired Driving Research Session

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**Region-wide Sobriety
Checkpoint program**



**Checkpoint Strikeforce
Original Plan**

- Conduct Sobriety Checkpoints
 - In each state (**DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, WV**)
 - At least 1 checkpoint per week
 - 6 month long program (July 2002 – January 2003)
 - Participation by multiple jurisdictions
 - Highly publicized and visible
 - Underage drinking component

The Next Plan (2006)

- Conduct Sobriety Checkpoints
 - In each state (DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, WV)
 - **YEAR-LONG PROGRAM**
 - 6 month intense (At least 1 checkpoint per week)
 - 6 month sustained (At least 1 checkpoint per month)
 - **Supplement checkpoints with saturation patrols**
- Participation by multiple jurisdictions
- Highly publicized and visible

The Current Plan

- Conduct Sobriety Checkpoints
 - In each state (DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, WV, KY, NC)
 - **SIX-MONTH PROGRAM**
 - 6 month focused enforcement (holiday periods)
 - Periodic focused enforcement (holidays/special events)
 - **Supplement checkpoints with saturation patrols**
- Participation by multiple jurisdictions
- Highly publicized and visible

Results

- ▣ An evaluation done by NHTSA found that:
 1. A region-wide checkpoint program can be successfully implemented and sustained for 3 years
 2. By 2004, the region as a whole experienced a 7.05% reduction in alc/related crashes relative to the nation as a whole
 3. The intensity of checkpoint activity appears to be related to the effect on crashes

Current Status of CPSF

- ❑ CPSF will begin its 9th year in July
- ❑ States continue to see value in participation
- ❑ Yearly strategic planning sessions keep program current
 - Examples - Phantom Checkpoints (PA), DUI Task Force (DE), Happy Hour Checkpoints, Monday Night Football Checkpoints, Halloween, Rural Road Crackdown
 - Always seek to combine enforcement technique with a media hook

CPSF Stats Since 2002

- ❑ Checkpoints 8,095
- ❑ DWI Arrests 22,091
- ❑ Vehicle Contacts 4,101,135
- ❑ Safety Belt Citations 11,811
- ❑ Felony Arrest 2,436
- ❑ Fugitives Apprehended 2,103
- ❑ Drug Arrests 4,041

The Moral of the Story

A highly visible, comprehensive enforcement program, that includes both checkpoints and saturation patrols is the most effective impaired driving countermeasure.

For More Information . . .

Resources

- ▣ www.nhtsa.gov
- ▣ www.r3communications.org
- ▣ www.stopimpaireddriving.org
- ▣ www.safercar.gov
- ▣ www.distraction.gov
- ▣ www.checkpointstrikeforce.net

The End

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