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**South Louisiana Chapter
New Orleans**

Traffic Safety Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, July 16, 2008

The meeting was held in the 2nd floor Training Room in the ISH Bldg., 4713 Utica St., Metairie, LA. Lunch was served at 11:30 am (compliments of the National Safety Council). The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bob Canfield, newly named Committee Chairman, at about 11:55 am. Self introductions were held and the following were present:

Del Bosarge, Jefferson Parish Traffic Engineering, dbosarge@jeffparish.net
Bob Canfield, Louisiana Highway Safety Commission, RRCBRLA@aol.com
Dan Champagne, ISH, dan.champagne@ish1.com
Marc Ducote, Louisiana Highway Safety Commission, mcducote@bellsouth.net
Beth Inbau, National Safety Council, South LA Chapter, beth@metrosafety.org
Sgt. John Pollard, St. Charles Sheriff's Office, jpollard@stcharlessheriff.org
Donald Redman, AAA, dredman@aaamissouri.com
Sgt. Antoine Rodrigue Jr., Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office, antoine-rodrigue@lpsa.net
Fred Terluin, Louisiana Highway Safety Commission, fterluinjr@cox.net
Bill Welsh, LA Dept. of Transportation & Dev., williamwelsh@dotd.la.gov

Mr. Canfield distributed copies of *Safety Management System News* (summer 2008 edition) and a summary of the legislative update. He explained that the latest signed revision of any law supersedes if there is a conflict.

Mr. Canfield also reported on an initiative for designated drivers from a company called Zingo. Information about their commercial initiative can be found at www.callzingo.com.

Mr. Canfield displayed the traffic engineering manual published by the US military. He said it surpasses that used by private companies. He suggested anyone in the business of traffic engineering obtain a copy.

Ms. Inbau reported that 11 Public Information Officers from the Louisiana State Police completed the 3-day instructor course for the National Safety Council's Alive at 25 program. However, an administrative road-block has prevented the implementation of the project.

Mr. Terluin reported on the "100 Days of Summer" state-wide enforcement campaign to reduce speeding. The LHSC has issued grants to law enforcement agencies for overtime for the campaign.

Sgt. Pollard reported that St. Charles Parish did not experience any fatalities for July so far.

National Safety Council, South Louisiana Chapter

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Mr. Bosarge reported on several projects in Jefferson Parish: Jefferson Hwy. at John Curtis School; Edwards Ave. signal upgrades; Transcontinental at W. Esplanade (should be completed in November); Lapalco by Harvey Canal (hope to get signs by end of year); Kawanee at canal (should be completed by end of year); W. Esplanade at Wilson (another year to complete). He also mentioned that the Parish is considering installing more red-light-running cameras. He added that the statistics on the existing cameras will not be published for some time.

Sgt. Rodrigue reported that Lafourch Parish conducted a DWI checkpoint recently, but the data has not been released. He said his department is participating in the speed enforcement efforts and that there have been no fatalities this month so far. He reported that there will be a Traffic Summit in Houma on 7/17/08.

Mr. Welsh reported on that the project on Jefferson Hwy. at Causeway should be completed by September. He reported on the I-10 project in Metairie, in which new lanes will be open soon. He reported that the work on the Huey P. Long Bridge is still set to be completed by 2012 and that lane closures are ongoing. He reported on several other DOTD projects: I-10 in Slidell (will begin using new span in May 2009); Jefferson Hwy. (signal upgrades including synchronization should be completed in 2-3 weeks).

Mr. Canfield reported that DOTD plans to widen I-12 from O'Neil to Walker.

Mr. Champagne gave updates on the Murphy and Marathon Refineries.

Mr. Redman reported that AAA has learned that the national refinery capacity should be improved by 2010 due to upgrades being done now. AAA continues to call for a comprehensive energy policy. More information can be found at www.aaafoundation.org.

Mr. Canfield reported that traffic records data can be found on the "Tiger" website at <http://www.dps.state.la.us/tiger/>. He added that the financial future of local and federal DOTDs is not good. Recent Congress study suggested an increase in gas tax to \$0.40 per gallon or tolls on the interstate highways will be needed to fund the departments.

Mr. Canfield also announced that due to state budget cuts, LHSC will cancel contracts himself, Mr. Terluin and Mr. Ducote effective 9/30/08.

Mr. Canfield announced that the SELA DWI Task Force meeting will be 8/8/08 (always the 2nd Friday), 10 am at LSP Troop B in Kenner. All are invited to attend. The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, August 20, 2008**, 11:30 am.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at about 1:15 pm.

Submitted by: Beth Inbau, NSC President & CEO

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