



2010-17

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS THE MISSION OF OPERATION SAFE DRIVER

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) has reviewed the mission of the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA), a non-profit organization in Greenbelt, MD, whose goals are focused on highway safety and saving lives;

WHEREAS, NSA has reviewed the Operation Safe Driver (OSD) program which is designed to promote highway safety, reduce fatalities, injuries and crashes by improving commercial and non-commercial driver behavior and performance through effective enforcement, education and awareness strategies;

WHEREAS, Commercial vehicle and non-commercial vehicle driver performance, recognition and decision factors accounted for 88 percent of the critical reasons for large truck-related crashes based on the 141,000 *Large Truck Crash Causation Study* which occurred between April 2001 and December 2003;

WHEREAS, Highway crashes related to large trucks account for 12 percent of the total fatal crashes. Focusing more attention on commercial and non-commercial operators will save lives. Improving highway safety for commercial vehicle operations starts with the driver;

WHEREAS, Road traffic injuries are the leading cause of death worldwide among young people aged 10-24 years. Each year nearly 400,000 people under 25 die on the world's roads – on average more than 1,000 a day. In the United States, from 2003 to 2006 on average 23.2 percent of fatal crashes involving a CMV a driver between the ages of 16-24 was killed;

WHEREAS, A critical element of OSD is the "Teens and Trucks – Share the Road" training program designed to help teens and young adults operate passenger vehicles safely around large trucks and buses;

WHEREAS, Distracted driving is a critical factor in crashes and has recently garnered much attention in the media, part of which was due to several recent naturalistic driving studies from the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute. Distracted driver education and awareness is another critical element of the OSD program for 2010;

WHEREAS, the pro-active participation of the NSA and other law enforcement agencies through enforcement, education, and awareness strategies can have a positive impact on the reduction of highway crashes, fatalities, and injuries;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association does hereby: support the Operation Safe Driver program and encourages all of law enforcement to participate in the program to enhance public safety.

Adopted at a Meeting of the General Membership in Anaheim, CA on June 29, 2010.