



2020-08

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS  
QUICK CLEARANCE OF ROADWAY INCIDENTS USING TRAFFIC  
INCIDENT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES**

**WHEREAS**, law enforcement personnel are frequently first responders to traffic incidents and often act as scene commanders; and,

**WHEREAS**, highway transportation incidents represent one of the leading causes of on-duty death and injury to first responders, including being struck by vehicles while working along the roadway or being exposed to unpredictable environmental factors; and,

**WHEREAS**, traffic incidents often exacerbate traffic congestion, result in secondary vehicle crashes and increased danger to the public and quick clearance of roadway incidents is important to preventing further incidents; and,

**WHEREAS**, each law enforcement agency should decide upon the methodology to protect traffic incident scenes and clearance of those scenes without compromising the integrity of an investigation; and,

**WHEREAS**, unplanned roadway events, staffing considerations, weather, terrain, and numerous other factors vary from incident to incident and make impractical typical applications, prescribed responses to, and mitigation of unplanned roadway incidents; and,

**WHEREAS**, law enforcement agencies currently receive training in incident management, crash investigation, and roadway clearance; and,

**WHEREAS**, "typical traffic incident management applications" are templates that may be adapted to myriad situations;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) supports law enforcement agencies receiving training and using Traffic Incident Management (TIM) applications for unplanned traffic incidents; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the NSA supports and participates with the Federal Highways Administration as a part of the Traffic Incident Management Executive Leadership Group (TIM ELG) and allows the FHWA and the TIM ELG to display the NSA logo along with

other participating organizations on official publications and displays and at official functions;  
and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the NSA opposes TIM applications in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) to prevent them being interpreted as standards rather than as guidelines; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the NSA encourages law enforcement agencies to commit sufficient resources to the planning and coordination process intended to aid in quick clearance strategies and Traffic Incident Management curriculum.