



**2013-07**

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF A MODEL "WRONG WAY DRIVING" RESPONSE  
FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) recognizes the importance of a unified law enforcement response to the report of a wrong-way driver and the threat it poses for the general motoring public, community, and law enforcement officers, and;

**WHEREAS**, law enforcement response to the report of a wrong-way driver can be one of the most dangerous situations an officer can face while on patrol and each year many officers are injured and some killed as a result of being struck by wrong-way drivers, and;

**WHEREAS**, a review of law enforcement best practices and the development of guidance to officers are warranted for officer safety, the safety of the motoring public, and the community, and;

**WHEREAS**, different agencies use different stopping methods and strategies to respond to wrong-way vehicle events, including: driving parallel with the wrong-way vehicle while traveling in the opposite lane (with the flow of traffic) and attempting to gain the driver's attention with emergency lights, siren and spotlights; deploying tire deflation or entangler stopping systems; conducting a traffic break to reduce the closing speed; using a patrol car to "ram" a wrong-way violator or using the car to serve as a stationary or moving roadblock, most of these methods involve a high degree of risk and may put law enforcement officers and other motorists in jeopardy, and;

**WHEREAS**, the development of "best practices" guidelines by the NSA would serve as a valuable tool to law enforcement agencies across the U.S;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the National Sheriffs' Association supports the development of "best practices" guidelines by the NSA to act as a model "wrong way driving" response for law enforcement, and;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the National Sheriffs' Association appreciates and commits to the opportunity for continued representation, input and collaboration in ongoing National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) efforts to prioritize the

need to communicate the benefits of a model “wrong way driving” response for law enforcement to sheriffs and other public safety professionals nationwide.