



2024-01

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

**WHEREAS**, safe, quick traffic incident clearance prevents secondary vehicular crashes, reduces responders and other roadside workers' traffic risk exposure, and mitigates congestion; 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**, law enforcement agencies currently receive training in Traffic Incident Management (TIM)<sup>1</sup>, crash investigation, and roadway clearance; and

**WHEREAS**, TIM includes proven collaborative processes, technologies, and tools to more safely and quickly detect, respond to, and clear traffic incidents; and

**WHEREAS**, unplanned roadway events, staffing considerations, weather, terrain, and numerous other factors make impractical a prescribed response to, and mitigation of, unplanned roadway incidents and TIM offers templates that may be adapted to a myriad of situations;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) supports law enforcement agencies receiving the National TIM Responder training and the use of relevant TIM processes, technologies, and tools;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the NSA supports the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) TIM Executive Leadership Group (TIM ELG)<sup>2</sup>;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) encourages law enforcement agencies to commit sufficient resources to the planning and coordination process intended to aid in safe, quick clearance strategies and TIM curriculum.

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<sup>1</sup> Information on TIM available from DOT's Federal Highway Administration: <https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/tim/>

<sup>2</sup> Information on the TIM ELG found here: <https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/tim/leadership/index.htm>