# **OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY Department of Public Works** Government of Guam

Performance Evaluation Report

Fiscal Year 2005 Highway Safety Plan

### Section 402 Grant Activities Funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Region IX

# I. OVERVIEW

During this reporting period, the Section 402 grant funded programs as contained in the Fiscal Year 2005 Highway Safety Plan, which are 100% federally reimbursable by the U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and implemented in Guam by the Office of Highway Safety (OHS), Department of Public Works, were designed to save lives by reducing the incidence and severity of vehicular crashes.

The transportation safety-specific grant activities during Fiscal Year 2005 included:

- 1. Alcohol & Other Drugs Countermeasures
- 2. Occupant Protection/Child Passenger Safety
- 3. Selective Traffic Enforcement Program
- 4. Emergency Medical Services
- 5. Roadway Safety (402)
- 6. Planning & Administration
- 7. Public Information & Education
- 8. Youth Alcohol/Drug-Free Program
- 9. Safe Communities
- 10. Special Occupant Protection
- 11. Data Incentive Program (411)
- 12. Roadway Safety (FRS)
- 13. Child Passenger Protection Education Section 2003(b)
- 14. School Bus Safety

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During this reporting period, OHS achieved maximum exposure of its highway safety enhancement efforts coupled with further strengthening its long-established professional rapport with all media sources while maintaining open communications with public and private sector members of the Highway Safety Coalition.

These achievements were accomplished by means of mass education & safety awareness campaigns, the enforcement of existing traffic laws, the introduction of more stringent laws to promote safe driving practices, the improvement of Guam's Emergency Medical Services System, and the implementation of safety measures at high crash sites.

# II. 2005 STATESIDE BENCHMARK REPORT ANALYSIS

# A. Performance Goals/Results

This section addresses Guam's progress towards achieving 2005 HSP "Benchmark Report" performance goals. It is important to note that Guam's Section 402 funding was partially received in October 2004 and the last increment funding was granted later in September 2005. Guam continually strives to meet its performance goals as set forth in the 2005 HSP "Benchmark Report" with very minimal resources available either through funding, equipment, manpower services or government budgetary constraints implemented locally that affect Section 402 funds.

#### **Overall Program Goal**

To reduce the incidence and severity of vehicular crashes on Guam and save people's lives.

# **B. Program Area Goals**

The goals set forth for Guam in FY '05 are identified biennially and consists of the following program areas:

# 1) Alcohol and Other Drugs Countermeasures:

\*Were performance measures based on number of crashes per calendar year which reflects number of DUI fatal crashes, number of DUI injury crashes and showing incidence of reduced number of DUI injuries and crashes? Were the number of sobriety checkpoints increased to reflect the number of DUI arrests per calender year?

#### DUI CRASHES/FATALITIES/ARRESTS

#### Results:

The number of DUI crashes recorded in 2004 was 61 and approximately 29 in 2005, which showed a decrease of 32 crashes. However, the total number of fatalities increased from 14 recorded in 2004 to 22 in 2005. The total DUI arrests in 2004 was 488 and approximately 872 in 2005.

A total of 23 DUI checkpoints in areas of high traffic areas were conducted in 2005. Ten (10) DUI roving in alternate roads used by drivers that know about DUI checkpoints were also conducted in 2005. The roving locations were based on crashes where DUI arrests have been made as well as fatal and serious crashes occur.

Some of the steps Guam has taken to reduce the incidence of impaired driving include implementation of special enforcement efforts by local law enforcement, saturation patrols and DUI checkpoints, state oversight of a coordinated alcohol education and treatment program required for all DUI offenders in Guam, coordination of public information campaigns to increase awareness in the general population of the importance of safe and sober driving; and advocacy for more effective impaired driving laws in Guam. The networking relations between government department and agencies, private sector and non-profit groups resulted in the significant decrease in alcohol related deaths and crashes that occur on our roadways. It is our belief that this comprehensive approach is the best, most effective way to combat the problem of impaired driving.

# 2) Occupant Protection/Child Passenger Safety:

\*Were performance measures based on results of formal seatbelt survey conducted annually by research groups or university classes that reflect either a high or low usage rate of safety belts or child restraint systems?

#### Results:

A formal survey was conducted in 2005 by the University of Guam students indicates a slight increase in children four (4) years and under being properly retrained in a child restraint system from 61% to 66%. Most infants were placed in an infant carriers. Thus, the popularity of infant carriers and rear-facing, rear seat child car seats is a welcome development. The summary of observation for 2005 showed 84% of adult drivers are complying with the Guam Seat Belt Law and the Child Restraints reflect an increase compared to 2004.

Again, due to window tinting, reliable child restraint results are difficult to obtain. Child restraints use on Guam is an extremely difficult measure. However, parents were observed placing children into their vehicles using proper child restraints.

However, this did not prevent the Guam Police Department - Highway Patrol Division to conduct Seatbelt Enforcement in our roadways. A total of 1,019 citations were issued in 2004 for non-compliance. During DUI and STEP enforcement activities, seatbelt use was always monitored and violators were also cited at these enforcement locations.

The Department of Public Works - Office of Highway Safety, the Guam Police Department - Highway Patrol Division, and the Department of Public Health & Social Services - Emergency Medical Services for Children are currently permanent fitting stations and have conducted numerous inspections at their facility, as well as presentations at various schools, day care centers, private entities, military personnel and community meetings.

# 3) Police Traffic Services:

\*Were the number of radar selective enforcement checkpoints increased throughout CY2005 from 18 to 20? Was the overall number of crashes decreased? Were the number of citations issued for speeding/reckless driving increased by 5% through CY2005 for the safety of Guam's motorist to prevent fatalities and injuries from occurring due to reckless speed driving?

#### Results:

The total number of radar selective enforcement checkpoint increased to 28 in FY2005. The overall number of traffic crashes has steadily decreased from 6,762 recorded in 2003 to 6,561 recorded in 2004 and 5,625 as of November 3, 2005.

The Guam Highway Patrol is currently being upgraded in manpower services and with the shortage of manpower at this time, they are diligently working in conducting **STEP** on Guam's roadways to rid our island of aggressive drivers, speedsters and drunk drivers for the benefit of the overall community. The increased of enforcement and education can remedy the problems of DUI and speeding on Guam's roadways.

# 4) Emergency Medical Services:

\*Were EMS personnel trained and provided rescue equipment to assist in lifesaving methods during operations at crash-site island wide? Were response times decreased from 10-15 minutes to 5-7 minutes?

#### Results:

During FY2005, EMS personnel were trained through Guam Community College as well as attended off-island training to conduct lifesaving measures at crash-sites and saving crash victims from trauma and shock by providing technical expertise and care at crash sites or en route to hospital from crash site.

Response time for arrival at crash sites have shown an increase in first-responder responses that show mobile vehicles are able to get to the crash sites much quicker than ambulance personnel stationed at various locations island wide.

# 5) Safe Communities

\*Was there an increased number of coalition members engaged in traffic safety countermeasures creating greater awareness in the reduction of traffic fatalities and injury-producing crashes for Guam?

#### Results:

Currently, the Highway Safety Coalition is comprised of many Government of Guam departments and agencies (both autonomous and line agencies), various private sector businesses and several non-profit groups, and the military, in which we all join together to enhance safe communities and reduce traffic incidences on fatalities and injuries occurring on our roadways.

There are over 70 active coalition members from the cross-segments of our government who are working diligently and are very dedicated to the enforcement of traffic safety on Guam. We have identified 4 major districts on Guam who have formed a cohesive network and have worked diligently throughout CY2005 to promote traffic safety as a "high priority". The Office of Highway Safety continually strive to increase the number of members involved in highway safety activities and combine available resources for the benefit of the people of Guam.

# SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

# 1. Alcohol & Other Drugs

Alcohol and Other Drugs continued their recognized trend as the significant factors in motor vehicle crashes, especially those crashes resulting in deaths and serious injuries.

In 2005, there were 22 traffic fatalities recorded, 9 of which were DUI related. In 2004, Guam recorded a total of 14 traffic fatalities, 7 of which were DUI related. The increase in alcohol related crashes/fatalities can be attributed to shortage of personnel affecting the enforcement programs and efforts. Highway Patrol continues to be undermanned and will remain undermanned due to budget constraints and shortage of personnel within the Department.

With available funding, OHS, the Guam Police Department and the Superior Court of Guam placed major emphasis on continuing a full range of information, education, and enforcement countermeasure activities to reduce the motoring public's exposure to those drivers under the influence of alcohol or drugs. In 2005 the Guam Police Department - Highway Patrol Division conducted one (1) Standardized Field Sobriety Test Training and one (1) Intoxilyzer training, in which 25 G.P.D. enforcement officers, Navy Security and Airport Police Security attended.

With a staff of eleven (11) Traffic Investigators and two (2) Police Sergeants, the Guam Police Department continued to conduct both Operation DUI sobriety checkpoints and selective enforcement island wide to deter drunk and drugged drivers from impacting the safety of the motoring public.

Displays and exhibits were presented throughout the year in the elementary, middle, and high school level of the public school system as well as in shopping centers island wide. Actual field sobriety testing demonstrations were conducted at the island's middle and high schools during promotional activities for drug-free lifestyles. Public service announcements saturated the electronic media sources to pass on such messages as "SAYNO TO DRUGS", "DON'T DRINK & DRIVE... USE A DESIGNATED DRIVER", and to emphasize the lethal consequences of driving under the influence.

Among the highlights in 2005 was the youth conference entitled "*Totally Healthy...Totally Drug-Free*" that was organized by the Youth for Youth Organization and held at the Guam Hyatt Regency Hotel during the month of April. This highly publicized activity featured guest speakers from various professions dealing with the problems associated with alcohol and other drugs.

During this period, awareness campaigns were conducted in conjunction with both local and national promotional programs such as 3-D (Drunk and Drugged Driving) Month, the Governor's Holiday Hotline, Youth Month, Police Week, Public Works Week, Red Ribbon Week, Buckle Up Month, Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week, and Safe Kids Week.

GPD conducted a total of 23 DUI checkpoints, which includes stationary and saturation patrols. During this checkpoint, a total of **411** arrests were made. Guam will continue to reduce impaired driving in Guam's roadways by increasing DUI checkpoints from 20 to 25 to increase arrests and reducing alcohol related fatalities. Funding was used to send officers to the DUI Instructor Course. We will continue sending enforcement officers to off-island training, conferences, and/or meetings to enhance their knowledge and experience on all aspects of DUI enforcement. We will also continue the overtime funding for enforcement activities to deter motorist from driving drunk. Funding was used to purchase Guam's first DUI mobile van, in which it finally arrived in July of 2005. We will continue to purchase necessary equipments to be utilized by OHS and GPD and increase public education and information on the dangers of drinking and driving.

### 2. Occupant Protection/Child Passenger Safety

Section 402 grant funding was used to implement projects aimed at informing and educating the general public about the advantages of using safety belts and child restraint systems for the protection of all vehicle occupants.

Guam's Seatbelt Law (Public Law 18-45) mandates the usage of seatbelts or federally approved child restraint devices in cars, vans and pickup trucks by drivers and front seat passengers, as well as all children under 12 years of age.

The Guam Office of Highway Safety, Department of Public Health & Social Services (Emergency Medical Services for Children), Guam Highway Patrol, Guam Fire Department, and the Guam Police Community Relations Section, conducted more than 150 presentations to children in all school levels, during community functions, at shopping centers and nurseries to generate a greater awareness about the legal requirements and to promote the proper usage of child restraint systems.

A multitude of occupant protection informational materials such as wall posters, stickers, brochures, and "walking poster" were distributed island wide to ensure public awareness about the benefits of using occupant protection devices. The Office of Highway Safety along with other GovGuam Departments and Agencies and the Guam Highway Patrol are working diligently in producing PSA's and promoting safety awareness campaigns to increase child usage rate that has increased slightly from over 61% to 66% as indicated on the 2005 Formal Survey conducted by UOG.

The Guam Highway Patrol conducted "*Operation Buckle Down*" checkpoints at schools and day care nurseries to alert, educate and cite violators for non-compliance with the Seatbelt Law. Small rewards were given to those passengers who were using their restraint devices.

Additionally, during Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week (February) and Buckle Up Guam Week (May) over 100 committee members to include CPS Technicians conducted several public information and education PSA's and addressing Occupant Protection issues either through electronic media of published articles in the Pacific Daily News.

The Office of Highway Safety provided educational information to volunteers who are active promoters for the proper use of child restraints who in turn conducted presentations at their respective schools and/or nurseries. O.H.S. conducted cooperative training with the Department of Education, Headstart Division and the Salvation Army on child restraint systems and safety in a vehicle. These training were received by over 100 parents, teachers, and private citizens. Emphasis was placed on the dangers of airbags and preventative measures that can be taken to prevent serious airbag-related injuries.

Guam will continue to address the Guam Seatbelt Law by increasing the usage from 66% to 70% by increasing seatbelt enforcement as well as conducting more public information and education activities. During the Child Passenger Safety Refresher Course held in September 2005, a total of

twelve technicians have been re-certified. These technicians will continue to educate the general public on the importance of child restraint systems.

# 3. Selective Traffic Enforcement

The Guam Police Department's Highway Patrol conducted numerous standard field sobriety tests and selective radar enforcement activities island wide during traffic checkpoints to deter speeding, drunk & drugged driving, and to enforce Seatbelt usage.

With the implementation of "*Operation Blue Fire* and *Operation Buckle Down*" by the Guam Police Department, more officers are reaching out to the public distributing highway safety materials on safety belt usage, airbags, child restraint devices and alcohol & drug countermeasures to keep motorists aware of safety instruments in their vehicle, and to rid Guam's roadways of drunk & drugged drivers.

The Guam Highway Patrol continues to conduct traffic safety classes at the public middle and high school levels, as well as at community & social functions to inform and educate the public about alcohol and other drugs countermeasures, speed enforcement, and occupant protection/child passenger safety measures. In 2005, the Guam Police Department - Highway Patrol Division conducted a Laser/Radar Training consisting of 34 enforcement officers from G.P.D.

Through off-island training of police personnel, procurement of additional police cruisers, parts for speed detecting devices, radar, and radios, the objectives and goals of the program were diligently pursued. Traffic enforcement is a crucial element in the reduction of severe alcohol-related cases on our roadways.

Pamphlets and brochures were produced and distributed island wide to encourage public awareness about the dangers of driving under the influence and to inform and educate drivers about Guam's Seatbelt Law (P.L. 18-45) and Guam's Safe Streets Act (P.L. 22-20).

Guam will continue to reduce traffic crashes by increasing their high visibility enforcement, conduct public education presentations, and provide training to GPD officers to reduce traffic crashes.

# 4. Emergency Medical Services

In 1977, Guam Public Law 14-11 mandated the development of an island wide system of emergency medical services to meet the pre-hospital trauma needs of the Territory's multi-ethnic communities.

Since then, traffic crash response efforts have been centered on the development of basic and advanced training curricula for emergency medical technicians, the certificated training of rescue response personnel, coupled with upgrading the standards of ambulance & specialty rescue equipment.

Presently, with both Guam Fire Department and U.S. Armed Forces field medical units on 24-hour standby status for traffic crashes, the EMS system involves the response to traffic crashes, pre-hospital treatment, and ambulance transport to the appropriate medical facility.

Emergency medical technicians from the Guam Fire Department administered pre-hospital care at the scene to over 2,500 injured victims prior to ambulance medivac. There were 22 recorded traffic fatalities during this reporting period.

During the past several fiscal years, the continuous improvement of the Territory's EMS system involved the development of the Emergency Medical Technician certification curricula by the Guam Community College coupled with establishing a nucleus of certified rescue personnel manning the Guam Fire Department's island wide satellite stations.

In spite of OHS' efforts to further improve the EMS system by providing rescue personnel with extrication devices such as the Jaws of Life, cut-off saws and power units, increasing the number of EMT as well as upgrading their certification levels, OHS achievements in this specialty area were short-changed by the lack of management support for continuous personnel development training from the rotating hierarchy of the Guam Fire Department.

Guam will continue to improve their EMS response to injury related traffic crashes by purchasing necessary extrication equipment and OHS will assist them in the public awareness activities.

# 5. Roadway Safety

Section 402 funding was obligated for materials and supplies and equipment to meet the needs for implementing roadway improvements.

Numerous speed studies and traffic counts were made to evaluate such factors as speed limits, signal warrants and road designs. Traffic counters were continuously used to monitor the speed of traffic and to evaluate the effectiveness of speed humps at several locations. To simplify the replacement of signs lost during Guam's typhoons, the CHIP Highway Inventory continue to be upgraded as highway improvements were completed.

Using traffic pre-empt controls and visual locking monitors, pilot projects at high hazard locations were implemented. Pavement marking field testing continued in an effort to determine the durability as well as the reduction in reflectivity due to wear and exposure to intense ultraviolet light.

The Department of Public Works along with the Office of Highway Safety will work closely with the Guam Police Department in distinguishing the locations of crosswalks and marking them accordingly to federal highway regulations. These crosswalks will decrease the number of pedestrian fatalities on Guam's roadways.

### 6. Planning & Administration

The Office of Highway Safety was tasked with the responsibility of administering the Section 402 grant activities as contained in the Highway Safety Plan.

As a continuing process, off-island training for OHS staff members and the Governor's Highway Safety Representative continued for personal and professional development in the administration of OHS projects.

The procurement of printed promotional materials has been an on-going activity every year. Through its administration of the Highway Safety Plan, OHS was able to create greater public awareness of occupant protection systems, alcohol & other drug countermeasures, and focus on the hazards of drunk & drugged drivers. In addition, OHS continue to network with the Attorney General's Office and the Guam Legislature to ensure that key legislation to enhance the highway safety measures received support, public awareness, and the import they are due.

The Office of Highway Safety will continue to implement and monitor its federal highway safety funding and program areas. They will send staff to training on highway safety management and financial training to improve their skills to better manage their safety programs.

### 7. **Public Information & Education**

This program focused on creating public awareness of Seatbelt safety and child restraint devices to include drugged and drunk driving countermeasures.

Major emphasis was placed on providing on-site demonstrations at child day care centers, Head start classes, kindergarten classes, and elementary level classes regarding safety guidelines when securing infants and children within federally approved infant safety seats, toddler seats and booster seats. The Seatbelt demonstrator model was used by OHS staff when addressing audiences comprised of elementary school children.

During the 2005 calendar year, and in conjunction with safety personnel from the Guam Fire Department, the Guam Police Department, the Department of Public Health & Social Services/Health Education Office, a total of 70 child safety seat and Seatbelt demonstrations for staff & parents were conducted at child day care centers, while almost 600 Head start children, 250 kindergarten students, and 16,000 elementary school children (grades 1-5), school aides and teachers from 26 public elementary schools attended the on-site demonstrations.

Hence, of the 15,234 children enrolled in the elementary level of the public school system, which includes Head start & kindergarten, the highway safety coalition members were able to expose safe passenger restraints methods to more than 88% of this target audience during more than 650 classroom lectures/demonstrations lasting 20-30 minutes per session.

Because of the increasing demand from both public & private schools for orientations regarding seatbelts and other traffic safety concerns (e.g. pedestrian, cycling, rollerblading and school bus safety), OHS intends to qualify selected personnel from all public & private schools so child safety seat and Seatbelt demonstrations can be conducted by trained school personnel during the teacher orientations at the opening of each new school year, as well as during scheduled safety activities during the calendar school year.

This training activity will be conducted by certified child passenger safety technicians from the Office of Highway Safety, the Guam Highway Patrol, Guam Fire Department, and the Department of Public Health & Social Services.

The Guam Highway Patrol, Guam Police Department also conducted "*OPERATION BUCKLE DOWN*" at 26 public elementary schools, 6 private elementary schools, 7 public middle schools, 4 public high schools, and 5 private high schools. This activity involved uniformed officers issuing verbal warnings to unrestrained drivers and passengers, presenting special awards to child passengers who were restrained, as well as distributing leaflets and other materials to all motorists entering school campuses regarding The Seatbelt Law.

Frequent radio announcements, radio talk show interviews, television PSA's, printed materials and print media coverage greatly assisted OHS in keeping the community aware of highway safety issues. Posters, fliers, keychains, and stickers were procured and distributed island wide to inform and educate the public about drunk/drugged driving countermeasures, safety belts, airbags, and child restraint systems.

Some of the key events that OHS planned and/or observed were:

*	Child Passenger Safety Awareness Month	February
*	Week of the Child	April
*	Buckle Up Week	May
*	Youth Month	May
*	Police Week	May
*	Public Works Week	May
*	Emergency Medical Services Week	September
*	Red Ribbon Month	October
*	School Bus Safety Week	November
*	Drunk & Drugged Driving Month (3-D's)	December
*	Governor's Holiday Hotline	December

The Office of Highway Safety networked closely with other Government of Guam agencies, nonprofit organizations, the private sector, and military units to disseminate information and to educate the public about highway safety issues and concerns that affect all of us in one way or another, and in keeping our roadways a safer place to drive. A total of 31weekday & weekend displays and exhibits were manned at the Guam Premium Outlet and the Micronesian Mall, and requesting middle & high schools during the eleven key events listed above by the Office of Highway Safety staff, the Guam Police Department, Guam fire Department, the Superior Court of Guam, the Department of Public Health & social Services, the Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse, the Guam Community College, the Department of Education, the Attorney General's Office, the Guam Nurses Association, and other non-profit organizations.

During these key event activities, information leaflets, wall posters, fliers, pre-printed pencils, cups, stickers, and a variety of "walking poster" materials were distributed by highway safety coalition staff members and volunteers until supplies were exhausted to more than 50,000 people who attended the displays & exhibits.

Information leaflets and other printed public information materials were distributed to Parent-Teacher Organizations (PTO) for elementary, middle, and high school levels (private and public) students and faculties, this also included the Guam Community College and the University of Guam. Additionally, information on seatbelt safety, stickers, posters, etc., were distributed to 100% of listed island day-care centers during Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week.

By investing in the upgrade of personnel skills, procuring materials, supplies and crucial equipment, and a strong public information campaign, the Office of Highway Safety has performed a much needed public service in saving lives and reducing serious injuries in auto crashes.

The Office of Highway Safety along with the Partners for Highway Safety will continue to educate...educate the public on all areas of highway safety.

# 8. Youth Alcohol

Grant funding was made available to the Office of Highway Safety for the Youth for Youth Program. The main emphasis of this program was to create awareness amongst the youths of Guam about the dangers of drugs/alcohol, impaired driving, and being under the influence of drugs & alcohol.

In 2004, a total of 133 youths under the age of 25 were arrested for DUI. In 2003, a total of 177 youths under the age of 25 were arrested for DUI. Alcohol is the number one drug of choice in Guam, followed by marijuana and the host of other illicit drugs.

Presentations continued to be conducted at public & private middle and high schools to educate and encourage our teens to lead drug-free lifestyles. Public service announcements were produced for the youth target audience pertaining to drugs & alcohol and the dangers involved when a person becomes addicted to these menaces.

Demonstrations by the Youth for Youth group continue to be conducted in schools for their peers as a mean of emphasizing the consequences involved when coming into contact with drugs & alcohol. OHS continued to provide promotional materials at these functions which encourage youths

to lead drug-free lifestyles.

Other villages are becoming more concerned about our dilemma regarding drugs/alcohol involving teens. This has prompted an upsurge in the formation of peer groups and clubs in the schools to educate all youths about alcohol/drugs countermeasures. OHS, Guam Police and the Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse are all contributing their time and expertise in assisting these villages start their programs for the benefit of Guam's youth.

Guam will continue to reduce the number of DUI arrests and crashes on youth by conducting more education, especially during the holidays, balls, and graduation. High visibility DUI enforcement will be concentrated during these events.

# 9. Safe Communities

The morbidity and mortality rates in Guam mirror those of the United States, although Guam is only semi-metropolitan in nature. Deaths due to motor vehicle crashes are the fifth leading cause of death in Guam.

Although the Guam Seatbelt Law and the Safe Streets Act have become law to reduce motor vehiclerelated injuries and deaths, the upsurge of traffic crashes continues. Within the context of a total injury prevention and surveillance program, this project will be activated in the scope of the 2003 fiscal year grant activities.

In keeping with the vested responsibilities of the Department of Public Health & Social Services, standards for data collection and surveillance requirements will be developed to effectively analyze the incidence of traffic crash injuries in Guam. Hence, this program will establish an injury surveillance system, establish coalitions that advocate injury prevention, and ensure the continuance of public education and intervention activities co-sponsored by all involved coalition members which are critical and must be addressed immediately.

Guam will conduct more educational meetings with the communities, most especially, with members from the outer islands (Micronesian and Asian cultures) on highway safety issues. The Office of Highway Safety will coordinate with the Safe Community Coalition and implement campaigns to promote public awareness on highway safety.

# 11-12. Data Incentive Program

The Traffic Records Committee has been overseeing the assessment from different GovGuam Departments and Agencies involved in the traffic records network. They are currently upgrading their systems to make the necessary changes needed for all to share be under <u>Uniformed System</u> for <u>Traffic Records</u>.

Again, an off-island company was to be contracted to assist the committee in setting the data system in place. However, the contract agreement between the Department of Public Works and the offisland company was in questioned by the Attorney General of Guam. Efforts are being made to make changes and to finalize the contract.

The 411 Coalition will continue to hire an off-island consultant to improve Guam's Traffic Record System. Ledgelight Inc., has been awarded the bid to come to Guam to begin the phases to be used in Guam by various agencies/departments dealing with the collection of crash data. Funds will be used to purchase necessary equipments and software programs. Upon completion, agencies such as the Department of Public Works-Office of Highway Safety and Highway Planning, Guam Police Department, Guam Fire Department, Department of Motor Vehicle, Superior Court of Guam, and the Guam Memorial Hospital would be able to share information on crash data.

# 13. Highway Safety Personnel Development Training

The following personnel attended Section 402 Grant funded training during this period:

- Jesse Garcia (DPW), Charlie Baleto (DPW); Claire Meno (Public Health); Officers Thomas Cruz and Patrick Sanchez (GPD) attended Lifesavers 2005 in Charlotte, North Carolina from March 13-15, 2005.
- Therese Matanane, Acting Highway Safety Coordinator and Officers Michael Aguon and Franklin Perez attend the Western Region Partners Meeting in Carmel, California from March 16-18, 2005.
- Claire Meno, Program Coordinator, DPW and Officer Aida Pierce (GPD) attended the California OTS Summit 2005 in San Diego, California from May 2-25, 2005.
- Therese Matanane, Acting Highway Safety Coordinator attended the Program Management Workshop in Phoenix, Arizona from May 16 20, 2005.
- Claire Meno, Program Coordinator and Officer Alex Blanquisco (GPD) attended the Instructor Development Workshop in Reno, Nevada from June 13-17, 2005.
- Constructor Course in Jacksonville, Florida from July 11-15, 2005.

#### 14. Problems Encountered

Funding for Section 402 grants were received rather late due to Congress' release of appropriations for the Nation's Highway Safety Bill approved during the fourth quarter of FY 05. Partial approved funding was received in October and the last increment funding was received in September for Guam's FY 05 programs. Predicaments surrounding our economic conditions globally and locally have crippled our already strained OHS financial outlook.