

# AMERICAN SAMOA HIGHWAY SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2008



Swains Island



Rose Island



Tutuila Island  
&  
Aunu'u Island



Manu'a Island Group  
Ta'u, Ofu, & Olosega



PREPARED FOR:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

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**American Samoa  
Highway Safety Annual Report  
Federal Fiscal Year 2008**

**Prepared for:**

**U.S. Department of Transportation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

**Developed and presented by:**

**The American Samoa Government  
Department of Public Safety  
Office of Highway Safety  
Pago Pago, AS 96799**

**December 31, 2008**

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HON. TOGIOLA T.A. TELAFONO  
Governor

HON. AITOFILE T.F. SENA  
Lt. Governor

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

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Office of the Commissioner



FILIPA ATALI M. U. FUJAYA  
Commissioner

Serial: 217-08

December 31, 2008

Dr. David Manning Ph.D.  
Regional Administrator  
Department of Transportation  
NHTSA Region IX  
201 Mission Street, Suite 1600  
San Francisco, CA. 94105

Dear Dr. Manning:

I am pleased to present the American Samoa's Annual Report of federal fiscal year 2008 Highway Safety Program activities.

This report provides an overview of American Samoa's use of NHTSA FY 2008 funds and the approved carry forward funds from previous years. Program goals and accomplishments are presented as defined in our FY 2008 Highway Safety Plan. The challenges we face in developing countermeasures require meticulous research, based on solid up-to-date data. American Samoa made a significant improvement in the timely collection of our crash data with the introduction of a new electronic crash reporting system, which we believe will help tremendously in our ability to analyze highway safety problems.

We are still evaluating our accomplishments, and performing audits of our projects and budgets. We hope that you accept this draft report in the mean time pending our submission of our final FY 2008 Annual Report.

Sincerely,

FILIPA ATALI M. U. FUJAYA  
Commissioner/Governor's Representative

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# **Department of Public Safety Office of Highway Safety**

Filifa'Atali M. Fuiava  
Commissioner, Department of Public Safety

## **Office of Highway Safety Staff**

Fred Scanlan, Grant Administrator

Olive Leule, Financial Officer

Rachel Manning, Highway Safety Program Coordinator

Sam Kolone, Administrative Assistant

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## Contact Information

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# 1.0 Highway Safety in American Samoa

## 1.1 Introduction

The American Samoa Highway Safety Program is administered by the Department of Public Safety, Office of Highway Safety. The Commissioner of Public Safety, Filifa'Atali m. Fuiava is the Governor's Representative, and Mr. Fred Scanlan is the Territory Highway Safety Coordinator.

### **Mission**

The mission of the American Samoa Office of Highway Safety is to reduce the traffic crashes, traffic fatalities, injuries, and property damage on the American Samoa roadways, and to create a safer environment for motorists, passengers, and pedestrians.

### **Funds**

Three million dollars of the federal Highway Safety funds were programmed during the federal fiscal year 2008. These include:

- Section 402 State and Community Highway Safety Grant Funds
- Section 408 Data Improvement Funds
- Section 3003(b) Child Passenger Protection Funds
- Section 406 Occupant Protection

### **Goals**

Goals for this Federal Fiscal Year 2008 Annual Report are set and committed to in the 2008 Highway Safety Plan.

## 1.2 Crash Summary

In American Samoa, the total number of crashes decreased by 30% between 2003 and 2008, from 1001 in 2003 to 702 in 2008. The number of fatal and serious injuries decreased 18% between 2003 and 2008. Fatality increased by one from 2007 to 2008.

Two non-motorists were fatally injured in 2008. Table 1 provides detail in key areas of the American Samoa highway safety trends from 2003 to 2008.

Table 1. Traffic Safety Trends in American Samoa (2003-2007)

Crash Data/Trends	Progress Report Data 2003 to 2007				
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Fatalities- actual	4	1	6	3	1
Serious Injuries - actual	106	66	77	83	73
Alcohol-related crashes	2	8	4	9	6
Percent of population observed using safety belts	51%	51%	56%	46%	50%
Non-motorist fatalities - actual	0	0	2	1	1
Non-motorist serious injuries -actual	36	27	34	25	25
Pedestrian fatalities -actual	0	0	2	1	1
Total Crashes	1001	872	789	686	705
Speed-related Crashed	6	4	12	15	6
Total DUI Arrest	233	271	176	300	244

### 1.3 Program Focus Areas/Challenges

The year 2008 was a trying year in American Samoa’s Highway Safety Office. There was a change in the Governors Representative. The Commissioner of Public Safety resigned, which led to critical changes in the Highway Safety Office by the Acting Commissioner. The Highway Safety Coordinator was changed, and not much has been accomplished in FY 2008 program at the time.

There were only two staff members to fill the voids, train the new Coordinator, and keep the program going.

As things have a way of working out, the new coordinator was the acting Traffic Records Coordinator and has some experience in highway safety.

Five problem areas were focused on in the OHS' FFY 2008 Highway Safety Plan. These included:

1. **Occupant Protection** - Seat belt usage and child passenger safety restraints used in American Samoa is below national average.
2. **Youth Alcohol** - DUI arrest of drivers under age of 21 is on the rise.
3. **Pedestrian Safety** - The safety of pedestrians on American Samoa roadways.
4. **Traffic Records** - Improving the timeliness, accuracy, completeness, uniformity, compatibility, and integration of traffic records for problem identification and performance measurement.
5. **Planning and Administration** - The coordination, monitoring, and evaluation of highway safety projects.

Table 2 shows the goals of OHS for mitigating these problems in American Samoa.

Table 2. FFY 2008 Highway Safety Program Area Goals

Problem Area	FFY 2008 Goal
Occupant Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase motor vehicle occupant seatbelt usage by 10%</li> <li>• Increase American Samoa’s seatbelt usage in FY 2008 to 65%</li> <li>• Conduct not only major visible enforcements but also continuous enforcement</li> </ul>
Youth Alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase DUI arrest by 20%</li> <li>• Reduce DUI related crashes by 10%</li> </ul>
Pedestrian Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce pedestrian injury from motor vehicle crashes by 5%</li> <li>• Maintain a 0% injury of school age pedestrians injured at school zones</li> </ul>
Traffic Records	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement Electronic Crash Reporting System that is MMUCC compliant</li> <li>• Fund a Pilot E-Citation program</li> <li>• Fund Electronic Emergency Medical Services System that is NEMSIS compliant</li> <li>• Develop Traffic Records System Integration Plan</li> </ul>
Planning and Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that Highway Safety Programs are implemented, monitored and analyzed</li> <li>• Establish a time line of activities to reduce motor vehicle crashes, fatalities, and injury crash rates below national average</li> </ul>

## 1.4 Accomplishments

American Samoa achieved several improvements in FFY 2008. A brief summary of these accomplishments is provided below and more detail is provided in Section 3 of this annual report.

### Occupant Protection:

- 2008 study shows that seatbelt usage in American Samoa increased from 45.6% compliance in 2006 to 55.7% in 2008.
- Increase in enforcement of seatbelt law – increase number of citations issued for failure to proper restrains during the national “Click It or Ticket It.”

**Youth Alcohol:**

- Reduction in Youth alcohol related crashes.
- Increase in DUI Youth arrests.

**Traffic Records:**

- OHS procured and deployed four laptop and printers in police cruisers in support of field data collection to improve timeliness and accuracy.
- OHS applied for and was awarded third year traffic records Section 408 grant funding.
- OHS conducted several Traffic Records Coordinating Committee meetings and reached out to additional safety and traffic records stakeholders.

**Planning and Administration:**

- OHS sent Traffic Records Coordinating Committee members to the Traffic Records Forum.
- OHS developed and will continue to develop Corrective Action Plan for FFY 2008 Management Review.

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## 2.0 Trends in American Samoa Highway Safety Data, 2003 - 2007

The following figures (1 through 8) provide “Select Performance Measures” that the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) has recommended.

Year 2007 is the most recent year that complete data sets are available, and the highways safety programs performance measures for that year are highlighted in the graphs below. Trends from 1999 to 2002 can be considered “baseline” and from 2003 to the present “progress”. When baseline data are inadequate or unavailable, only five-year trends are graphed.

### 2.1 Performance Measures

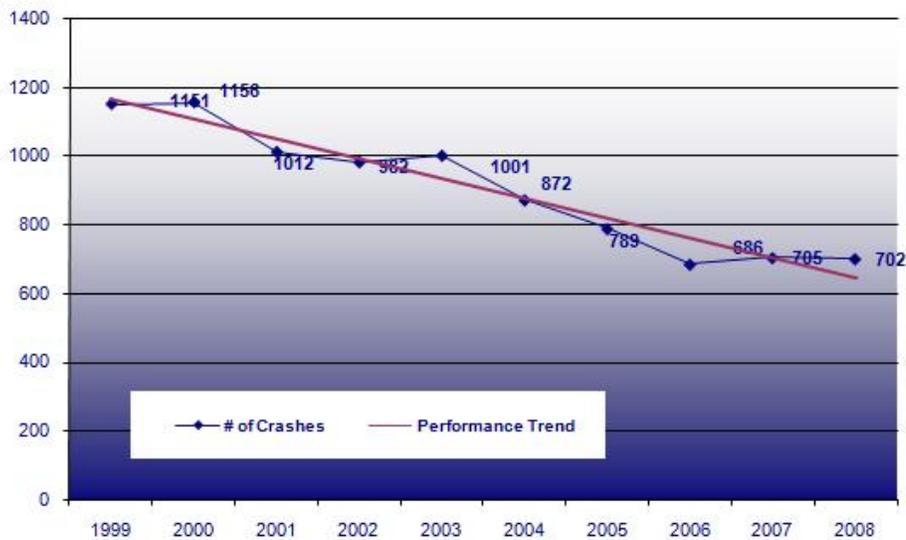


Figure 1. Number of Crashes Achieved a 30% Reduction

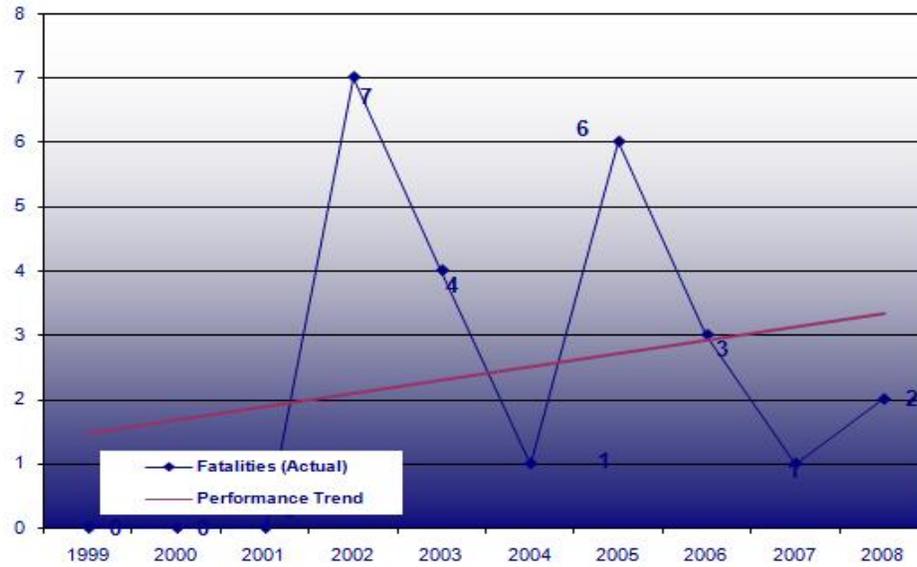


Figure 2. Number of Fatalities Increase by One

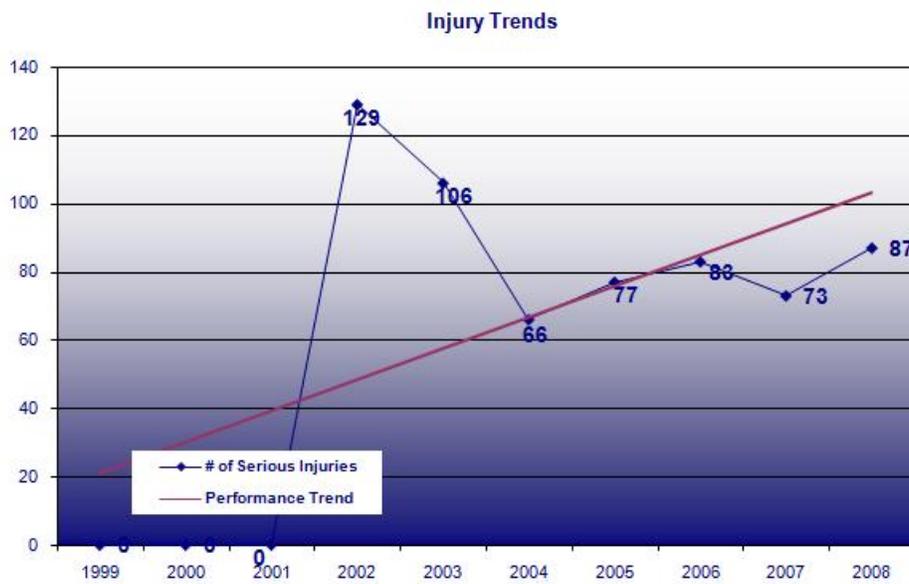


Figure 3. Number of Injuries Increased by 17%

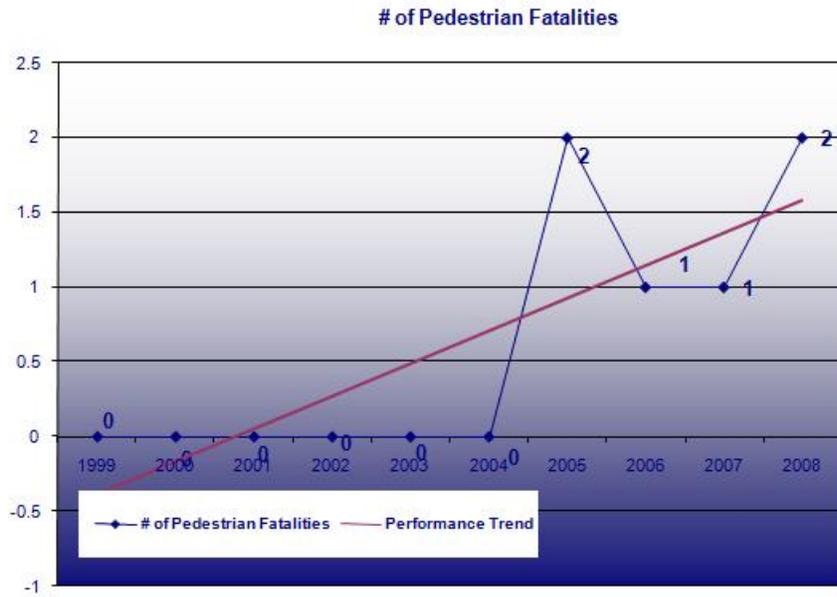


Figure 4. Number of Pedestrian Fatalities

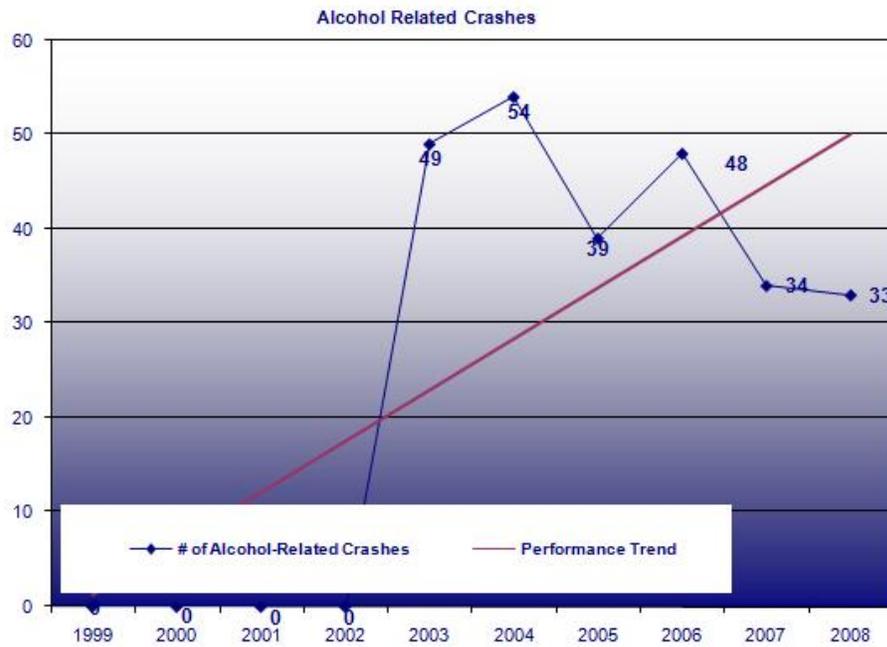


Figure 5. Alcohol Related Crashes

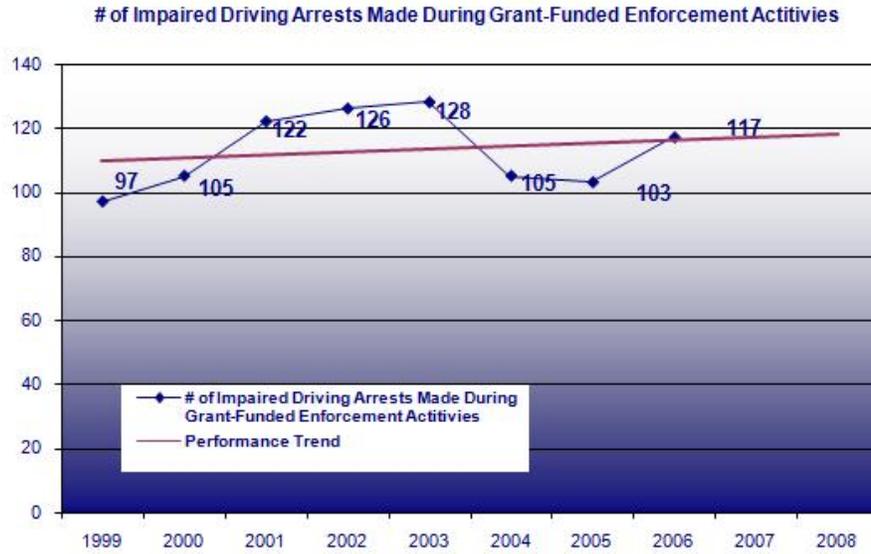


Figure 6. Number of Impaired Driving Arrest

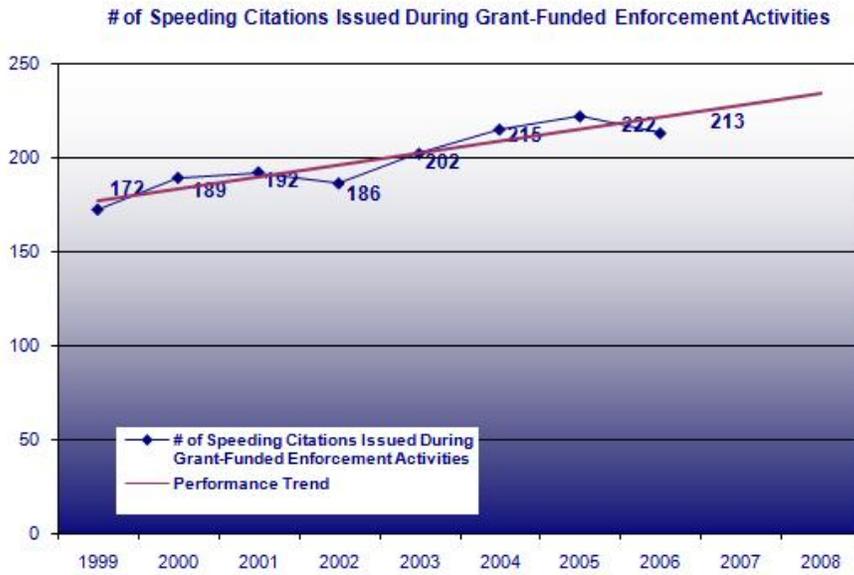


Figure 7. Number of Speeding Citation

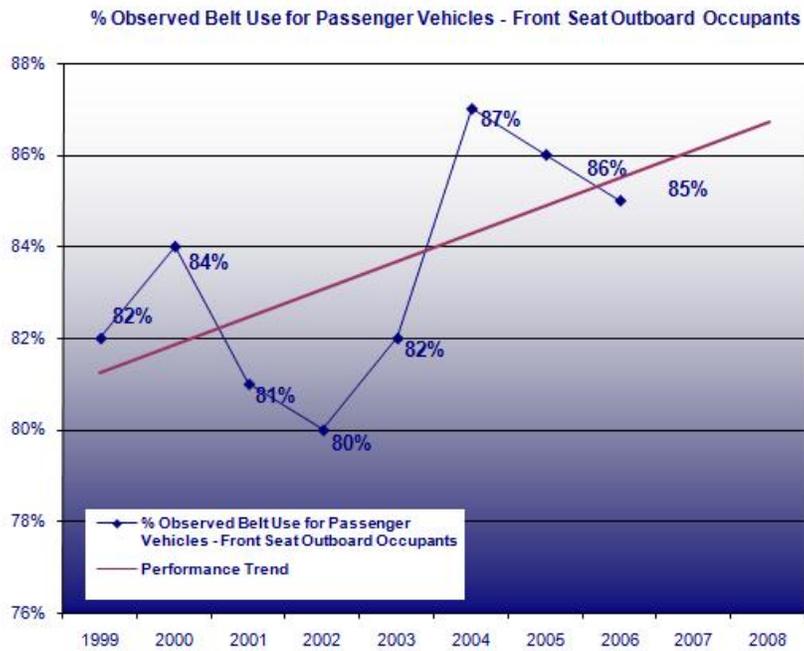


Figure 8. Observed Seatbelt Usage

## 2.2 Program Area Performance Measures

TBD

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## 3.0 Programs and Projects

The accomplishment and budget are described in this section.

### 3.1 Program Management

#### Planning & Administration Program Summary

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
PA-2008	402	Planning & Administration	\$120,209.89	\$50,666.37

#### Planned Activities:

Highway Safety Coordinator administer the highway safety program, coordinate safety planning activities and resources with partners, monitor and manage budget.

#### Accomplishments:

- Prepared all required documents and consult with the region on the territory highway safety programs.
- Conducted meeting with OHS partners to develop and identify problem areas within the FFY 2009 Highway Safety Plan
- Completed and delivered the FFY 2009 Highway Safety Plan to NHTSA.

### 3.2 Alcohol Enforcement

#### DUI Enforcement

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
AL-2008	402	Bi-Monthly DUI Enforcement	\$149,564.42	\$29,400.82

#### Planned Activities

Conduct 24 DUI enforcements and participate in the National Over the Limit, Under Arrest campaign.

Plan and contract for Paid Media for the Alcohol Crackdown.

Increase number of impaired arrests made during Grant-funded enforcement activities.

Accomplishments

- Planned and managed the Impaired Driving Program.
- Participated in the National Over the Limit, Under Arrest Campaign.
- Provided overtime funding for DUI enforcement (10% of the planned was completed)
- Funded off-island training for law enforcement officers as well as conduct local training.
- Procured Ballistic Helmets for night time enforcement.

### 3.3 EMS Medical Services

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
EM-2008	402	EMS Support	\$107,425.58	\$4,348.40

Planned Activities

Provide funding for off-island training for EMT and dispatchers. Purchase rescue and other equipment to include local training materials.

Support the procurement of an electronic system that is NEMESIS compliance (408 Project).

Accomplishments

- Training for EMT and Dispatchers.

### 3.4 Occupant Protection

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
OP-2008	402	Enforcement of seatbelt usage	\$152,003.13	\$15,629.32

Planned Activities

Continue monthly overtime enforcement to increase seatbelt usage by 10% and child passenger safety seat usage by 40%.

Launch paid media campaigns through local TV, radio, and road signs in promoting seatbelt usage.

Procure car seats in support of Child Passenger Safety program and provide training.

Provide training for officers on OP enforcement and conduct assessment and survey.

Accomplishments

- Increase of four percent in the seatbelt use rate (46 percent in 2006 to 50% in 2007).
- Increase Enforcement of seatbelt law during the national ‘Click It or Ticket’ enforcement mobilization.

### 3.5 Pedestrian Safety

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
PS-2008	402	Program Management and Training	\$75,110.60	\$10,507.04

Planned Activities

Procure crossing guard safety equipment and conduct training.

Provide promotional items and public awareness to schools through outreach and paid media.

Accomplishments

- Program Management Support.

### 3.6 Police Traffic Services

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
PT-2008	402	Traffic Enforcement Services	\$234,200.62	\$131,883.51

#### Planned Activities

Procure equipment for the law enforcement vehicles (two Crown Victoria) that were purchased under FY07.

Procure office equipment and supplies in support of enforcements and mobilization programs.

#### Accomplishments

The following equipment was procured:

Siren and lights for two Crown Victoria	\$6,106.80
Traffic Office Printer Toners	\$225.00
Motorola mobile radios (5)	\$4,775.00
408 Crash Project-Vehicle computers set shipping cost	\$1,408.06
Siren projector speakers	\$8755.28
HS & Traffic Office supplies and computers desktop for Crash system	\$5,423.31
Traffic Record Coordinator Laptop with accessories	\$4,145.04
Traffic Police safety vest	\$570.00
Office supplies for Traffic Division	\$79.92

### 3.7 Traffic Records

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
TR-2008	402	Traffic Records Program Support	\$90,160.48	\$30,235.32

#### Planned Activities

Support TRCC member travel to attend Traffic Records Forum.

Establish security measures to protect the Crash System.

Accomplishments

- TRCC members (3) attended the Traffic Records Forum in Orlando, FL.
- Crash System security and network development is incomplete but on-going.

### 3.8 Road Safety

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
RS-2008	402	DPW Program Support	\$54,525.75	\$0

Planned Activities

Accomplishments

- No activity this period.

### 3.9 Safe Communities

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
SA-2008	402		\$130,795.31	<b>\$89,358.08</b>

Planned Activities

Accomplishments

### 3.10 Special Occupant Protection

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
SO-2008	402		\$3,377.85	\$0

Planned Activities

Accomplishments

- No activity this period.

### 3.11 Youth Alcohol

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
YA-2008	402	Under-age Enforcement	\$151,214.60	\$14,888.49

Planned Activities

Support enforcement program that promotes Liquor inspectors target of clubs and stores selling alcohol to minors.

Fund overtime for enforcement of Under-age drinking.

Conduct outreach program and paid media.

Accomplishments

- Promotional items
- Paid Media

### 3.12 Planning and Administration

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
K4PA-2008	406	Not Planned	\$70,347.30	\$11,913.51

Planned Activities

This was not planned in the HSP for FY08 as funding was received during the FY08.

Accomplishments

- Mail Service-shipping and receiving of purchased orders

### 3.13 Safety Belts Paid Media

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
K4PM-2008	406	Media Campaign	\$83,653.00	\$33,015.00

Planned Activities

Support the National Media Campaign activities throughout the year

Accomplishments

- Paid Media – \$33,015.00

### 3.14 Alcohol

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
K4AL-2008	406		\$82,209.76	\$6,367.77

Planned Activities

This was not planned in the HSP for FY08 as funding was received during the FY08.

Accomplishments

### 3.15 Occupant Protection

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
K4OP-2008	406	Seat Belt Survey	\$195,530.00	\$4,125.00

Planned Activities

This was not planned in the HSP for FY08 as funding was received during the FY08.

Accomplishments

- Seat Belt Survey - \$4,125.00

### 3.16 Police Traffic Services

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
K4PT-2008	406		\$176,080.00	\$46,873.22

Planned Activities:

This was not part of the HSP FY08 as it was received during the FY08.

Accomplishments

### 3.17 Youth Alcohol

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
K4PT-2008	406		\$40,700.00	\$0

Planned Activities

This was not part of the HSP FY08 as it was received during the FY08.

Accomplishments

No Activity this period

### 3.18 Data Program SAFETEA-LU

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
K9-2008	408	Traffic Records Data Collection, Analysis and Improvement	\$1,054,976.22	\$374,719.90

### Planned Activities

Pilot Testing of Crash System

Developing E-Citation System

New Vehicle Title & Registration System

Roadway Inventory continuation (GIS/GPS)

### Accomplishments

- Crash System installed and training provided to law enforcement officers in the use of the system.
- Procured Court Office Equipment in support of the E-Citation Pilot Program.
- Funded the Development of the Court Electronic Citation.
- Applied for and received the third year Section 408 grant.
- Funded DPW GPS Equipment purchase for Roadway Inventory.
- Funded the completion of the OMV License Project.
- Procure the Crash system VPN Access software.
- Funded the Upgrade to Crash System for Electronic Data Transfer.
- Completed the FFY2009 Highway Safety Plan.

## 3.19 Child Passenger Protection

Account	Funds	Program Activity	Planned	Expended
J3-2008	2003B	OP Certification Training	\$25938.41	\$14,724.80

### Planned Activities

Provide funding for three officers to attend OP Cert Course in Saipan.

### Accomplishments

- Three certified officers in OP.

## 4.0 Program Budget Summary

Program	Account Number	Budget	Expended	Balance
Planning & Admin	PA-2008 G71741	\$120,209.89	\$50,666.37	\$69,543.52
Alcohol Enforcement	AL-2008 G71742	\$149,564.42	\$29,400.82	\$120,163.60
EMS Medical Services	EM-2008 G71743	\$107,425.58	\$4,348.40	\$103,077.18
Occupant Protection	OP-2008	\$152,003.13	\$15,629.32	\$136,373.81
Pedestrian Safety	PS-2008	\$75,110.60	\$10,507.04	\$64,603.56
Police Traffic Services	PT-2008	\$234,200.62	\$131,883.51	\$102,317.11
Traffic Records	TR-2008	\$90,160.48	\$30,235.32	\$59,925.16
Road Safety	RS-2008	\$54,525.75	\$0.00	\$54,525.75
Safe Communities	SA-2008	\$130,795.31	\$89,358.08	\$41,437.23
Special Occupant Protection	SO-2008	\$3,377.85	\$0.00	\$3,377.85
Youth Alcohol	YA-2008	\$151,214.60	\$14,888.49	\$136,326.11
<b>NHTSA 402</b>		<b>\$1,268,588.23</b>	<b>\$376,917.35</b>	<b>\$891,670.88</b>
406 - P & A	K4PA-2008	\$70,347.30	\$11,913.51	\$58,433.79
406 - Safety Belt Paid Media	K4PM-2008	\$83,653.00	\$33,015.00	\$50,638.00
406- Alcohol	K4AL-2008	\$82,209.76	\$6,367.77	\$75,841.99
406- Occupant Protection	K4OP-2008	\$195,530.00	\$4,125.00	\$191,405.00
406 - Police Traffic Services	K4PT-2008	\$176,080.00	\$46,873.22	\$129,206.78
Youth Alcohol	K4PY-2008	\$40,700.00	\$0.00	\$40,700.00
<b>NHTSA 406</b>		<b>\$648,520.06</b>	<b>\$102,294.50</b>	<b>\$546,225.56</b>
Data Program	K9-2008	\$1,054,976.22	\$374,719.90	\$680,256.32
<b>408 Data Program SAFETEA-LU</b>		<b>\$1,054,976.22</b>	<b>\$374,719.90</b>	<b>\$680,256.32</b>
2003B Child Passenger Protection	J3-2008	\$28,938.41	\$14,724.80	\$14,213.61

<b>2003 B</b>		<b>\$28,938.41</b>	<b>\$14,724.80</b>	<b>\$14,213.61</b>
Total		\$3,001,022.92	\$868,656.55	\$2,132,366.37