



SACOP COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted by: Chief David Moore

May 19, 2011

IACP recently launched:

The 21st Century Initiative. A portion of this initiative will consist of an online web portal allowing IACP members access to an e-library of resources addressing current challenges to law enforcement agencies. SACOP played an active role in the concept design of this initiative.

IACP Executive Committee:

Adopted two resolutions imperative to officer safety both of which are priority areas for the SAFESHIELD committee of SACOP. The first calls for all agencies to adopt a mandatory vest wear policy, the second calls for all agencies to adopt mandatory seatbelt wear policy. These are basic to the theory well established within SAFESHIELD that "if it is predictable, then it is preventable".

The IACP Executive Committee adopted the following resolutions on mandatory vest wear and seat belt use:

Mandatory Vest Use by Police Officers: Submitted by the Executive Committee

WHEREAS, the first responsibility of government, as well as government leaders, is to ensure the safety and well-being of its citizens and the lives of those of the officers who have dedicated their lives to protecting their communities; and

WHEREAS, it is their responsibility to continually evaluate and develop techniques that will protect officers and provide them with the equipment and training that will protect them when they are confronted by someone who will not hesitate to injure or use deadly physical force against them; and

WHEREAS, in order to fulfill their duties and responsibilities of protecting their communities, law enforcement officers must first protect themselves; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF), 1,626 law enforcement officers in the United States were killed in the line of duty between 2000 and 2009; and

WHEREAS, data published by the NLEOMF indicates that there were 565 law enforcement officers killed with a firearm from 2000-2009; and

WHEREAS, soft body armor is available to law enforcement personnel to protect against life threatening or potentially disabling injuries; and

WHEREAS, according to FBI LEOKA data, 37% of law enforcement officers feloniously killed during the time period of 2000 – 2009 were not wearing body armor; and

WHEREAS, the IACP/DuPont Kevlar Survivors Club has also documented that since 1987, more than 3,000 law enforcement officers have survived life threatening injuries because they were protected by their body armor; and

WHEREAS, according to a report by Bureau of Justice Assistance, only 60 percent of agencies have mandatory wear policies for body armor; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) calls on all law enforcement executives to immediately develop and implement and mandatory body armor wear policies for their departments; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the IACP understands that officers engaged in certain non-patrol activities may not be able to wear body armor during particular aspects of their assignments and that each department will need to determine those circumstances and situations where wearing body armor would be inappropriate.

Mandatory Seat Belt Use by Police Officers Submitted by the Executive Committee

WHEREAS, the first responsibility of government, as well as government leaders, is to ensure the safety and well-being of its citizens and the lives of those of the officers who have dedicated their lives to protecting their communities; and

WHEREAS, it is their responsibility continually evaluate and develop techniques that will protect officers and provide them with the equipment and training that will protect them when they are confronted by someone who will not hesitate to injure or use deadly physical force against them; and

WHEREAS, in order to fulfill their duties and responsibilities of protecting their communities, law enforcement officers must first protect themselves; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF), 1,626 law enforcement officers in the United States were killed in the line of duty between 2000 and 2009; and

WHEREAS, the NLEOMF indicates that the cause of 69 percent of law enforcement deaths between 2000 and 2009 (1,118) are from motor vehicle crashes and firearm related incidents; and,

WHEREAS; the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has reported that fatal traffic incidents in 2010 were the leading cause of officer deaths for the 13th straight year; and,

WHEREAS, in a recent report, NHTSA found that at least 42 percent of the officers killed in traffic crashes from 1980 - 2008 were not wearing seat belts; and,

WHEREAS, the issue of seat belt usage represents a critical officer safety issue and imperative that police executives take all necessary steps to ensure the safety of their officers; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) calls on all law enforcement executives to immediately develop and implement mandatory seat belt for their departments.

It is my recommendation that the TACP act immediately to adopt these resolutions for the Chief's Association for the State of Tennessee as an example for our Chiefs to follow and as an example to the Nation that we are serious about protecting our own.

The IACP recently released the Law Enforcement Action Agenda for the 112th Congress:

.Topics covered in the Action Agenda include:

- Support for National Commission on Criminal Justice
- Ensure Adequate Funding For State, Local and Tribal Law Enforcement
- Focus on Terrorism Prevention
- Promote Intelligence and Information Sharing
- Secure the Borders/Enhance Federal Immigration Enforcement
- Reduce Firearms Violence and Target Illegal Guns
- Combat Illegal Narcotics
- Establish A National, Interoperable Broadband Public Safety Network
- Improve Highway Safety

An innovative and more effective terrorist alerting system recently replaced the previous color-coded Homeland Security Advisory System. The National Terrorism Advisory System or NTAS is a new efficient system that will be able to provide immediate information about terrorist threats by providing timely, detailed information to the public, government agencies, first responders, airports and transportation hubs as well as the private sector. These alerts will include a clear statement that there is an imminent threat or elevated threat.

Imminent Threat Alert

Warns of a credible, specific, and impending terrorist threat against the United States.

Elevated Threat Alert

Warns of a credible terrorist threat against the United States.

NTAS alerts will be based on the nature of the threat: in some cases, alerts will be sent directly to law enforcement or affected areas of the private sector, while in others, alerts will be issued more broadly to the American people through both official and media channels. For more information visit <http://www.dhs.gov/alerts> .