

TRAK Record



A Publication of the **Towing & Recovery Association of Kentucky**—JULY 2016 Edition

JULY MEETING SPONSORED BY PATHFINDER FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC

MONTHLY MEETING WILL BE HELD JULY 19, AT 6:00PM AT:

BUCCA DI BEPPO, 2028 FLORENCE MALL, FLORENCE, KY

Mark your Calendars!

Happy 4th from your TRAK officers! Hoping everyone had a safe and enjoyable holiday weekend. We had a great turnout for our June meeting in Elizabethtown, and missed those that were unable to make it out.

During the meeting, the decision was made to postpone the picnic this year and proceed with a regular monthly meeting in August. Location and date will be determined in the near future.

We are pleased with the participation of our active members. We encourage you to reach out to potential new members, as well as some of those current members we haven't seen in a while. Let's make it a great year for TRAK!

Looking forward to seeing each and every one at the Florence meeting.

JUNIOR ELLIS ~ PRESIDENT ~ 502-348-5722

KEVIN ESTES ~ VICE-PRESIDENT ~ 270-765-2331

SHAUNA DECKER ~ SECRETARY ~ 270-589-0616

NICK SCHADE~ TREASURER ~ 502-426-4100

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The TRAK Beacon

Associate Member Spotlight

Pathfinder Financial Services, LLC

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We combine the team approach with knowledge and experience to help facilitate the process of business succession planning. This can include the buying and selling of businesses, merger and acquisitions, tax-leveraged ESOP's and family generational planning. These options can result in transferring of wealth from the business to the individual with tax efficiencies both in retirement and estate planning. Given the complexities of both the business and financial marketplace, taking organized steps toward financial freedom is critical when bringing together your team of professionals.

Steven Ridgley—Steve has been in the insurance industry for over twenty years and in the financial services industry for twelve years. He began his career in accounting and corporate tax before starting his own property & causality insurance business. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy, from St. John's College in Boston and has an Associate's degree in Accounting from the University of Louisville.

Steve's emphasis has been, and continues to be, working with business owners and professionals. With his background in accounting and tax, Steve has been able to find solutions for difficult problems and specific issues which face both business owners & professionals.

Carlos Benavidez—Carlos has been in the financial industry since 2006. Carlos holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of Louisville and has the designation of Accredited Wealth Management Advisor from the College of Financial Planning. He joined forces with Steve Ridgley to bring a true team approach to help clients identify, prioritize and craft needs driven goals.

Carlos brings many attributes from his prior service in the Kentucky Army National Guard. Being a veteran of the Armed Forces Carlos takes pride in what the military instilled in him: dedication, leadership, teamwork, positive work ethic and cross-functional skills.

Suzanne Wright—Suzanne is a team player with a commitment to Customer Service. Suzanne has worked on the Administrative and Recruiting side of the Financial Industry for over 17 years.

TRAAs to Offer First Responder Training

The Towing and Recovery Association of America (TRAAs) has launched an initiative to promote life-saving responder training.

The Federal High Administration's SHRP2's National Incident Traffic Management (TIM) Responder Training Program (L12) continues to increase the number of incident responders trained in this multi-disciplinary training approach. More than 190,000 law enforcement, fire and rescue, and towing and recovery professionals and other organizations have taken advantage of the program.

The Towing and Recovery Association of America, Inc. (TRAAs) is encouraging all TRAA members, state towing associations, and their members to host the 4-hour version of the National TIM Responder Training. The TIM Responder Training helps to ensure a well-coordinated response to traffic incidents, achieving faster clearance and improved safety for both responders and motorists.

Jim Austrich, FHWA SHRP2 product lead for TIM says, "This TRAA initiative will help us reach our goal to train nearly 80,000 towing and recovery professionals across the country."

As of June 27, 2016, an estimated 16,558 towing and recovery professionals have already received TIM training – more than 20% of the towing and recovery professionals who have been identified for training. The TRAA's aim is to implement and institutionalize TIM education within the industry.

Seatbelts Required for Passengers in Commercial Trucks

Passengers in large commercial vehicles are now required to wear seatbelts whenever the vehicles are operated on public roads in interstate commerce.

Effective August 8, 2016, the final rule revises Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations and holds motor carriers and drivers responsible for ensuring that passengers riding in large commercial trucks are using seat belts.

"Seat belts save lives – period," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx in a news release.

"Whether you're a driver or passenger, in a personal vehicle or large truck, the simple act of wearing a safety belt significantly reduces the risk of fatality in a crash."

In 2014, 37 passengers traveling unrestrained in the cab of a large truck were killed in roadway crashes, according to the most recent data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Of this number, approximately one-third were ejected from the truck cab.

FMCSA's most recent Seat Belt Usage by Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) Drivers Survey, published in March 2014, found that commercial motor vehicle passengers use seat belts at a lower rate (73 percent) than CMV drivers (84 percent). Federal rules have long required all commercial drivers to use seat belts.

"Using a seat belt is one of the safest, easiest, and smartest choices drivers and passengers can make before starting out on any road trip," said FMCSA Acting Administrator Scott Darling. "This rule further protects large truck occupants and will undoubtedly save more lives."

State Police Cuts Ties to Company

An investigation by Massachusetts State Police into a local towing company has prompted them to remove the company from its list of contractors. It comes after a young woman reported a tow asking her for sex while taking her home. MSP says they examined the driver's tow history during the last three months and found a second victim. According to MSP, this company has regularly towed cars along the turnpike and in the metro Boston area for police. The company told MSP the driver was fired, but MSP suspended Perfection Towing of Watertown indefinitely. In a statement, Watertown police said, "The Watertown Police Department has used Perfection Towing for more than 20 years and has not had any problems. The department is waiting for the State Police investigation to be completed."

TRAK Monthly Meetings

~~March 15th—Cave City/Glasgow~~

August—TBA

~~April 19th—Louisville, Tony's Wrecker Svc.~~

September 20th—Leitchfield

~~May 17th—Lexington, Robert's Towing~~

October 18th—Morehead

~~June 21st—Elizabethtown, Texas Outlaw~~

November 15th—Bardstown

July 19th—Florence, Bucca di Beppo

December—Christmas party

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