Year 2007
Highway Safety Programs
Annual Progress Report
December 28, 2007

David Manning, Ph.D.
Regional Administrator
United States Department
Of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
201 Mission Street, Suite 2230
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Dr. Manning

The CNMI Department of Public Safety is proud to submit our Highway Safety Programs Annual Performance Report covering Calendar year 2007.

Our staff would like to extend a sincere appreciation to you and your staff for working closely and sharing their expertise with our staff on highway safety programs. In 2007, we achieve objectives to our goals and have utilized a majority of our financial resources to ensure a safer CNMI. We hope that our report meets your approval and hopefully would be beneficial to NHTSA.

On behalf of the Department of Public Safety personnel, we would like to wish you and your staff a very prosperous New Year and may the New Year bring happiness and good health to all of us.

Sincerely,

Rebecca M. Warfield
Commissioner of Public Safety
Governor’s Highway Safety Representative
Mission Statement:

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Department of Public Safety, Office of Grants and Special Programs (OGSP) handles federal programs. One of the programs within OGSP is the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) whose mission is to reduce the number of traffic/alcohol related crashes especially those involving serious injuries and fatalities on the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota..

We continue to work in increasing or maintaining the child restraint usage rate above 73% in 2005 to 83% in 2006, and in 2007 with 82% a decrease of 1%. We continue to conduct public information and education program, due to limited manpower resources, enforcement efforts had decrease in enforcing seat belt violations due to some of the Officer’s neither resigned, transferred or retired. The number of seat belt had increase usage rate from 90% in 2005, 91% in 2006 and in 2007 with 92%.

Our goal of reducing traffic related injuries and fatalities greater emphasis on public education and enforcement efforts will continue to be implemented on Selective Traffic Enforcement Programs (STEP), Selective Traffic Law Enforcement (STLE) and other highway safety programs that will assist us in meeting our goals and achieving objectives in this reduction.

In addition, we will continue to achieve our goals and objectives by increasing the number at Traffic Section (traffic/DUI personnel) that patrol our streets especially during the day and evening hours when these fatalities occurred.

We will continue our public education on seat belts drinking and driving through collaboration with other government agencies and private businesses in addressing our current statistics on seat belt, pedestrian, traffic DUI arrests, injuries and fatalities.
Highway Safety Programs Overview

The Commissioner of Public Safety is designated Governor’s Representative for the CNMI Highway Safety programs and the Officer in Charge of the Office of Grants and Special Programs is designated Highway Safety Coordinator. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Western Region office continues to provide leadership and technical assistance for our highway safety programs. We continue to work closely with other government agencies, private businesses and the CNMI Safe & Sober and Baby Pedro Foundation a non-profit organization.

We continue to work hand in hand with different agencies such as the Department of Public Works (DPW), different Health Clinics on Saipan, Tinian and Rota. To include several private businesses and non-profit organization such as the CNMI Safe and Sober and Baby Pedro Foundation in assisting us in our highway safety annual awareness and campaign on highway safety programs such as Child Passenger Safety Week, Click It or Ticket and Impaired Driving Mobilization and during the Month of December Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention (3D) Month campaign.

The CNMI Department of Public Safety, Office of Grants and Special Programs develops an annual report on traffic safety progress as a guide for the CNMI’s federally-funded traffic safety activities. The report provide a brief overview of the various highway safety programs such as Child Restraint/Occupant Protection usage rate, traffic crashes, Emergency Medical Services and DUI data. Emphasis is given to those countermeasures programs that are supported through the Federal Highway Safety Programs as funded under U.S. Title 23, Section 402, 405(a), 406 and Section 411.

Other funding sources utilized to supplement proposed countermeasures programs include funds from our local government and through the CNMI Safe & Sober and Baby Pedro Foundation, a non-profit organization. Many of these efforts are coordinated and supported by the Department of Public Safety on Saipan, Tinian and Rota. In addition to the excellent work done by our partners, the CNMI highway safety programs are well coordinated by well trained professional staff and leadership under the Traffic Section on Saipan, Tinian and Rota and continues to emphasize the importance of increasing professionalism through advance training opportunities for professional development.
Planning and Administration Overview

Objective: To continue to implement effective highway safety programs in the CNMI.

The Department of Public Safety, Office of Grants and Special Programs under 402 funding for NHTSA Programs is as follows:

1. Planning and Administration (P&A)
4. Alcohol and Other Drugs Countermeasures (AL).
5. Emergency Medical Services
6. Advertising-PM

Earmarked Grants Applied:
A. Section 405(a): Occupant Protection Incentives Grant.
B. Section 406 Safety Belt Incentive

Program Introduction
NHTSA 402 Funding:
- On November 21, 2006, POI. Trent Aldan, OIC, Tinian Traffic/DUI Section and Michael San Nicolas, Resident Director for Tinian, Department of Public Safety attended the 2006 CNMI Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention (3D) Month proclamation on Saipan.

- On May 18-19, 2007, the following Fire/EMT personnel from Rota and Tinian Department of Public Safety, Fire Division attended the Emergency Medical Services Meeting on Saipan:
  FF. Randy Taisacan
  FF. Augustine Dosalua
  FF. Felix Santos
  FF. Sydney Biton
  FF. George Barcinas
  FF. Francis I. Manglona
  FF. Jimmy Mendiola
  FF. Roger Taisacan
  FF. Rodney Cabarles
  FF. Benjamin Manglona
  FF. Imee Tupaz
  FF. JoAnn Dela Cruz

- On June 9, 2007, the following Fire/EMT personnel from Rota and Tinian Department of Public Safety, Fire Division attended the Emergency Medical Services Meeting on Saipan:
  FF. Jimmy Mendiola
  FF. Julian Hofschneider
  FF. Cynthia Maranan
  FF. JoAnn DelaCruz
  FF. John Barcinas
  FF. Randy Taisacan
  FF. Felix Santos
  FF. Michael San Nicolas
  FF. Augustine Dosalua
  FF. Rudeinn Sablan
  FF. Rodney Cabarle
  FF. Julian S. Calvo
  FF. Francis I. Manglona
  FF. Edward Hocog
  FF. Maria Cabarles
  FF. George Barcinas
  FF. Sydney Biton
  FF. Rodney Cabarle
  FF. Benjamin Manglona
  FF. Roger Taisacan
  FF. Terrence Taimanao
  FF. Imee Tupaz
2007 Training & Development
### Yearly DUI Arrests and Fatalities Involved

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<td>359</td>
<td>494</td>
<td>596</td>
<td>475</td>
<td>375</td>
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### Yearly Seat Belt Survey Percentage Usage Rate

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Restraint % Usage Rate</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>83%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Occupant Protection % Usage Rate</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>91%</td>
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</table>
Child Restraint & Occupant Protection Overview

**OBJECTIVE:** Continue to implement new and effective program to educate the public about the importance of Child Restraint and Occupant Protection:

As we mentioned in the past, the CNMI Department of Public Safety continues to enforce the child restraint and seat belt violation and educate the community about the importance of seat belt use every trip, every time. In 2007, during the “Child Passenger Safety Week”, several activities were planned to increase public awareness on child restraint of different sizes especially on “Booster Seat”. On February 8, 2007, Governor Benigno R. Fitial proclaimed February 11—17, 2007, as “Child Passenger Safety Week and also proclaimed Sunday (February 11, 2007) as “Seat Check Sunday” in the CNMI”. During the signing, the Department of Public Safety and other government agencies were present to witness the proclamation at the Governor’s conference room.

The chairman for Child Passenger Safety Week POII. Jarrod Manglona conducted a brief presentation and demonstration on child restraint. The Child Passenger Safety Week committee members planned activities for the month of February to better educate parents, caregivers others (community) about the importance of child restraint and to always
Citation Issued: Child Restraint and Seat Belt Violation’s

The following is the citation issued during enforcement efforts, checkpoint and Laser Speed enforcement during the peak hours and also during traffic violation stop that we conducted during Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) on Saipan, Tinian and Rota. Some of the seat belt violation were also cited during night DUI enforcement and on weekend. In 2007, a total of six (6) Seat Belt and Car Seat Checkpoint conducted.

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<td>Child Restraint Citation Issued</td>
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<td>166</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>32</td>
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Child Restraint Usage Rate

<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>82%</td>
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2007 Child Passenger Safety Week “Seat Check Sunday” Courtesy Inspection”, POII. Regino Celis Certified CPS Technician together with Traffic Crash Investigator POIII. Flor Estabilio demonstrate the proper way of using child restraint. There were a total of about (25) car seat that were check.
Yearly Child Restraint Usage Rate

CNMI Child Passenger Safety Week
February 11-17, 2007

4 STEPS FOR KIDS

Raise your child right. If they’re under 4’9”, put them in a booster seat.
www.BoostersSeat.gov

Most kids age 4 to 8 need booster seats

When do you use a booster seat?
After your child outgrows the child safety seat.

CNMI
Department of Public Safety
Saipan, Tinian & Rota

Buckle up CNMI
Every Trip. Every Time.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Office of Grants & Special Programs
P.O. Box 907943 CN Saipan, MP 96943
Tel: (671) 664-9140 Fax: (671) 664-9141


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Restraint Usage Rate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>18%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>37%</td>
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<td>25%</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>73%</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>83%</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>82%</td>
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Aside from courtesy inspection, we continued to update our 8ft X 8ft vinyl signboard utilizing the national theme “Four Steps for Kids” and also publicized our campaign layout on different or local newspaper’s, magazines, church weekly newsletter (NorthStar) and utilized the electronic message erected along the busy highway that reminded the motorists about the important of child restraint. Seat Check Sunday was held on February 11, 2007, on the three islands Saipan, Tinian and Rota, a total of about 25 child restraint were inspected. Public Service Announcement (PSA) were aired on radio station on both am/fm and 25 seconds commercial on child restraint were aired through the month and also during the Superbowl.
2007 Child Passenger Safety Week Proclamation

CHILD PASSSENGER SAFETY WEEK
February 11-17, 2007

A Proclamation

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death of children ages 4-14 in America. In 2005, an average of five children age 14 or younger was killed and 640 were injured in motor vehicle crashes every single day.

February 11-17, 2007, has been declared Child Passenger Safety Week and February 11, 2007, has been declared CNMI Seat Check Sunday. The CNMI has joined all fifty states and other US Territories on enacting laws requiring the use of child passenger safety seats and systems.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), approximately 7,500 lives have been saved by the proper use of child restraints during the past 20 years. In the CNMI, the usage of child passenger safety was at 74 percent in 2005, compared to 40 percent in 2004. While 98 percent of America’s infants and 93 percent of children ages 1 to 3 are now regularly restrained, not enough children ages 4 through 7 are restrained properly for their size and age.

Only 10 to 20 percent of children ages 4 through 7 who should be using booster seats to protect them are actually in them and this puts children at an unnecessary risk of being injured or killed in crashes because they are simply in the wrong restraint for their size. Children ages 4 through 7 are generally too small for adult seat belts and need a “boost” to ensure the seat belt will fit securely across their chest and low across the upper thighs; to prevent internal injuries, neck, head and spinal injuries, and even ejection and death in the event of a crash.

The 4 Steps for Kids start at birth, with rear-facing safety seats, a forward-facing child safety seat (when at least 20 pounds), a forward-facing booster seat (when at least 40 pounds) and finally an adult seat belt (when at least 4’9” tall). The safest place for children up to the age of 13 is in the back seat of a motor vehicle.

Child Passenger Safety Week and CNMI Seat Check Sunday provide our community and various organizations the opportunity to work together through public information, education and enforcement efforts on the correct use of child safety seats to significantly reduce death and serious injury to children in the CNMI.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENIGNO FITIAL, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, by the virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth, hereby proclaim and endorse the week of February 11-17, 2007, as Child Passenger Safety Week in the CNMI and February 11, 2007, as CNMI Seat Check Sunday. I call upon all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals, and schools in the Commonwealth to promote and encourage the community to observe the week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities to increase awareness of correctly using child safety seats to protect against risk of death or injury.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand on this 8th day of February 2007.

[Signature]

BENIGNO R. FITIAL
Click It or Ticket Mobilization / Occupant Protection

“Click It Or Ticket” Mobilization National Enforcement. Occupant Protection

As practiced every year, committee members consisted of personnel from the Patrol Section, Fire/Emergency Medical Services were called to be part of the 2007 Click It or Ticket Mobilization National Enforcement Committee to represent their respective Section/Division within the Department of Public Safety, the CNMI Safe & Sober/Baby Pedro Foundation, a non-profit organization involved every year in providing in-kind use to promote the Click It or Ticket campaign. In February of 2007, Traffic personnel conducted seat belt survey with a 92% compliance rate when compared to 2006, survey of 91%. In planning for 2007 Click It or Ticket campaign several activities that took place for this special event included Selective Traffic Law Enforcement (STLE), Child Restraint/Seat Belt Checkpoint that were held at different locations during day light hours.

Other activities performed during the Click It or Ticket Mobilization involves other programs in working closely with the 2007 Emergency Medical Services committee, the Police Week coordinating committee. Working closely with the media is a success in airing out our messages on seat belt on both a/fm radio station’s as well as running a 25 second Click it or Ticket advertisement during the mobilization period.

Photo: Governor Benigno R. Fitial, Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez and DPS Commissioner Rebecca Warfield during the 2007 Click It or Ticket Proclamation Signing.
Public Information and Education Program
Child Restraint & Seat Belt

Printing of educational materials for distribution during displays, checkpoints. An 8ftX8ft vinyl banner (signboard were also erected). In 2007, we continue to publish ads on child restraint and seat belt messages on localize Beach Road and Island Locator magazine, local newspaper and North Star Church newspaper. The media’s played a major role in assisting us in putting out the messages on seat belt information on both radio air and television station that aired our seat belt commercial on Saipan, Tinian and Rota were of assistance. The two (2) Electronic Message board that were erected along the busy highway provided the motorists or driver’s information on local events on a daily, weekly, and on a monthly basis. Electronic signboards were to put out to view a highway safety messages on seat belt and drinking driving.

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<td>1001</td>
<td>1295</td>
<td>514</td>
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Yearly Seat Belt Violations Citation Issued

![Bar chart showing yearly seat belt violations citation issued per year from 2000 to November 2007. The chart represents data for drivers, passengers, and child restraint violations.]

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**2007 Thanksgiving Message**

**Day & Nite**

I don’t care if grandma’s house is just around the corner you have to buckle up.

![Image of a police officer with a message to buckle up for Thanksgiving.]

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I don’t care if grandma’s house is just around the corner you have to buckle up.

![Image of a police officer with a message to buckle up for Thanksgiving.]

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**BUCKLE UP this Thanksgiving**

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**BUCKLE UP this Thanksgiving**
2007 Click It or Ticket Proclamation Signing
2007 Click It or Ticket Proclamation

CLICK IT OR TICKET MOBILIZATION
May 21—June 3, 2007

A Proclamation

WHEREAS, the safety and security of the citizens and visitors of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and surrounding areas are vitally important; and

WHEREAS, a large percentage of our citizens regularly drive or ride in motor vehicles on our roadways; and

WHEREAS, one of five motorists (19 percent nationally) still fail to regularly wear their safety belts while driving or riding in motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, a seat belt survey as of November 2006 revealed a 91 percent usage rate by travelers on the highways and bi-ways of the CNMI; and

WHEREAS, the use of safety belts is supported by the laws of the CNMI; and

WHEREAS, increasing regular use of safety belt is the single most effective way to protect people, reduce fatalities and injuries, and save lives; and

In 2005, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reported 15,294 traffic fatalities between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 5:59 a.m. Fifty-nine percent of those killed were not wearing their seat belts at the time of the crash, a percentage higher than the 44 percent of passenger vehicle occupants who were unrestrained and killed during daytime hours. Nationally, 77 percent of the passenger vehicle occupants who were in a fatal crash and who were buckled up survived the crash.

WHEREAS, across the country law enforcement officers will actively be participating in the mobilization to ensure all motor vehicle occupants are buckled up day and night, and to to reduce the risk of injury and death caused in traffic crashes; and

WHEREAS, increased enforcement of seat belt laws, coupled with publicity has proven to be an effective method to increase seat belt use rates and decrease fatal crashes.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENIGNO R. FITIAL, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, by the power vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth, proclaim May 21—June 3, 2007, as CNMI CLICK IT OR TICKET MOBILIZATION. I urge all residents and visitors to always wear seat belts when driving or riding on our roadways.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 9th day of May 2007.

[Signature]
GOVERNOR
Police Traffic Services

Objective: Continue to implement Police Traffic Services in the CNMI for effective traffic enforcement in reducing traffic crashes and fatalities.

In 2007, the CNMI Department of Public Safety on Saipan, Tinian and Rota continues to monitor and enforce traffic violations through Selective Traffic Law Enforcement (STLE), Laser Speed enforcement throughout the year. With the decrease in manpower resources in which Police Officer’s resigned to work abroad or some that has taken their early retirement also to move to the State. In making sure the highway is safe for motorists, police officers also worked closely with other government agencies in addressing problem highways and continue to enforce all problem drivers who are not following the “Rules of the Road”.

As of November of 2007, the CNMI recorded 2410 traffic crashes four (4) traffic fatalities, one (1) involving alcohol. There were (526) minor and (23) serious personal injuries recorded. There were a total of (1446) citation issued from January 2007 to November 2007, for Traffic violations using Speed Laser enforcement. In the CNMI Auto/auto traffic crashes is the highest rate recorded. Most of these crashes occurred between the hours of 7:00-11:00 a.m. and from 12 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.
Total Traffic Fatalities

The chart above illustrates a decrease in traffic fatalities as of November 2007 to four (4) compared to 2006 five (5), about (0.8%) decrease as of November 2007. The results of these fatalities were either auto/auto and auto ran off roadway. Again, the fatalities show that different ethnic groups were involved. As of November of 2007. Below, traffic crashes involving personal injuries shows (526) for minor injuries and (23) for serious injuries recorded as of November 2007, an increase from previous year’s for Minor to (.81%) and decrease serious injuries of about (.17%).
Alcohol and Other Drugs Countermeasures

As always, the CNMI Department of Public Safety continues to enforce, monitor and deter drinking and driving on public highway or roadway on Saipan, Tinian and Rota. We continue to combat the drinking and driving problems that we face everyday. The data shows that more needs to be done especially on the enforcement efforts and public education in working closely with the media to continue airing and our messages on highway safety alcohol related (detriment of drinking and driving) and to continue to work with the CNMI Safe & Sober / Baby Pedro Foundation and other government agencies such as the and the hospital in addressing the problem. We need to put more attention as to what works in educating the community about the dangers of drinking and driving.

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<td>No. DUI Arrests</td>
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<td>65</td>
<td>50</td>
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Number of DUI Arrests

![Graph showing the number of DUI arrests from 2000 to Nov 2007]
Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol Statistic’s:

From January 2007 to November of 2007, the CNMI Department of Public Safety arrested (263) and recorded (1) DUI involved Fatality. The number of DUI involved traffic crashes shows (81) reported with (0) Serious and (55) minor injuries. As we mentioned in past reports, most of these arrests happen from ages (19) to (50) during the early morning hours. In 2007, the Department of Public Safety conducted seven (7) Sobriety Checkpoint and some were cancelled due to mother nature (raining) or bad weather condition.
December 2007, CNMI Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention (3D) Month

In preparation for December 2007 CNMI Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention (3D Month) campaign, the Department of Public Safety meet with the form 2007 (3D) committee members representatives consisting from each Section within the Department of Public Safety, Community Guidance Center under the Commonwealth Health Center (CHC), and the CNMI Safe & Sober/Baby Pedro Foundation to prepare activities for this important annual event. Each of the committee members were assigned tasks to prepare for the month long activities/campaign such as proclamation signing, 3D Kick-off school presentation, Santa Claus school visit, designated driver program, checkpoint, selective traffic law enforcement, bartender classes, printing of DUI educational materials and updating of 8ft X 8ft vinyl signboard (*Drunk Driving Over the Limit Under Arrest. Designate a sober driver*).

In 2007, DUI Checkpoint and Saturation Patrol were being conducted but were limited due to overtime pay and manpower problems encountered. Every year, the 3D activities starts before Thanksgiving Holiday. Scheduled signing of proclamation was on Wednesday, November 21, 2007. Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez signed the proclamation with the presence of the Commissioner of Public Safety, Resident Director from Tinian DPS, DPS representative’s from Rota and some other government agencies to witness the signing. This includes Little Miss Teen Marianas and Miss Teen Marianas and personnel from the Department of Public Safety, Fire/Emergency Medical Services.

Photo: 2007 December 2007 3D Month proclamation signing with Lt. Governor, Commissioner of Public Safety, Resident Director From DPS Tinian and representative from DPS Rota, DPS personnel and other from government agencies. Also, in his photo is Miss Little Teen Marianas and Miss Teen Marianas.
2007 December 3D Month

The 3D kick-off shifted from previous year’s candle light vigil to island-wide motorcade that was held on Saturday, December 1, 2007. This commence around 1:00 p.m. with DPS Santa Claus, the Chairwoman for Baby Pedro non-profit foundation designated driver volunteers, 2007 (3) committee member’s and DPS personnel joined the motorcade going around the island starting north then headed south to the island then back to DPS Central. Every year, the CNMI Department of Public Safety on Saipan, Tinian and Rota prepare activities for December 3D month campaign to deter drunk drivers as well as to educate the community about the negative effect of drunk driving.

During the month of December 2007, the committee assigned to handle the school presentation conducted presentations at both public and private schools focusing more on drinking and driving, seat belts, and other highway safety tips as well as distributed seat belt information and (3D) promotional items. This year’s Santa Claus visit will be on schedule for Saipan, Tinian and Rota due to low donation of candies to accommodate all the schools. Santa Claus was made available for those schools that had candies available for distribution. As of November 2007, the CNMI Department of Public Safety conducted two (2) Sobriety Checkpoints and additional Checkpoint will be conducted during the month of December 2007 a total of five (5), and will continue through the 1st first week of January 2008. Again, the low number of DUI Checkpoint conducted in 2007 is the result of manpower and overtime reduction.

The designated driver program was made possible by volunteer’s from the community to assist during the weekend/holiday in December and during the New Year’s celebration. There were about five (5) Designated Driver volunteer’s participated in the program. With the assistance and support from Baby Pedro Foundation (a non-profit) letters were sent out to some private businesses asking for car rentals for donation as well as other private businesses on radios and cell phones to be utilize by the designated drivers during their scheduled activity.
2007 December 3D Month Campaign
2007 December (3D) Month
Local Newspaper & Magazine SnapShots

Educational Presentation
Police officers Regino Colis, Glenn Rabago, and Watty Villagomez pose with students after conducting educational presentations on drunk and drugged driving to over 200 students from Tanian High School and Tanian Junior High School as part of the CNMI Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month last Friday. (courtesy photo)

Santa at Dandan Head Start

The Department of Public Safety’s Santa Claus and other personnel pose with students of the Dandan Head Start Center during a surprise visit yesterday. Santa distributed gifts to the children. (Photo by Iva Pateron)
2007 December Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention (3D) Month “Proclamation”

CNMI DRUNK and DRUGGED DRIVING PREVENTION MONTH
December 2007

A Proclamation

Each December we turn our attention to the problem of drunk driving by observing National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month. Though the holidays bring joy in celebrations with family and friends, they also bring a tragic increase in the incidence of impaired driving. This season, I ask each resident and visitor of the Commonwealth to avoid driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, to help stop others from driving in an impaired condition, and to increase community awareness about these issues.

Traffic fatalities nationwide in alcohol-related crashes fell by 0.2 percent, from 16,919 in 2004 to 16,885 in 2005. Of the 42,642 people killed in motor vehicle crashes in 2006, 13,470 were alcohol related. December 2006 revealed a horrid 1,076 traffic fatalities. Beginning January 2007 to present, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) recorded 227 DUI arrests in Saipan, 1 in Tinian, and 5 in Rota. Saipan recorded one alcohol related fatality.

Every person should reaffirm his or her personal responsibility to drive free of the influence of alcohol or drugs and to prevent others from driving under that same influence. We must promote practices such as designating a sober driver, stopping impaired family members and friends from getting behind the wheel, reporting impaired drivers to law enforcement officials, and teaching our young people safe, alcohol and drug-free behavior.

We should also promote coordinated public policies and citizen campaigns against drunk and drugged driving in our communities. One example is our Department of Public Safety’s “Drunk Driving: Over the Limit. Under Arrest” campaign. This local coalition of community, private, government and law enforcement organizations will increase public awareness of the hazards of impaired driving. Their message warns of the criminal penalties for impaired driving, including imprisonment and the loss of license, vehicle, time from work and money in fines and court costs.

As we celebrate the joyous holiday season, we can help save lives by preventing impaired driving. In order to ensure the safety of our roads for all travelers, we must continue to fight drunk and drugged driving throughout the year.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIMOTHY P. VILLAGOMEZ, Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, do hereby proclaim December 2007 as CNMI DRUNK and DRUGGED DRIVING PREVENTION MONTH. I call upon our community and leaders to join the National Holiday Lifesavers Mobilization sponsored by the “Drunk Driving: Over the Limit. Under Arrest” campaign. I urge everyone to remember the hazards of impaired driving and to become involved in fighting this dangerous problem.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of November 2007.

[Signature]
The 2007 EMS and EMSC Day Committee reached a consensus that the EMS Week and the EMSC Day will be celebrated on May 19th, 2007, which will be the main event of the weeklong celebration. The plan was to hold a firehouse open house at the Garapan Fire Station, which will feature most of the programs that the DPS Fire and Police have to offer. These included the Search and Rescue Unit, Forestry Service, Fire Prevention and Arson Investigation Unit, the Hazardous Material Unit, Logistics and Support Unit, EMS/Rescue Section, and also the “Click it or Ticket” campaign. Other government agency included the Commonwealth Ports Authority’s Aircraft Rescue Firefighting. The firehouse open house was open to the whole community and was focused as a “family orientated” event.

The sections had an opportunity to showcase their equipments and supplies from their respective disciplines. The famous fire service mascot, Sparky and Sparky Jr., were the main characters for the Open House. Audiences of all ages enjoyed the company of these two energetic mascots as they showed off their dancing skills. The children that were present at the open house had fun with Sparky and Jr.

The proclamation signing was held at the Governor’s Office Conference Room. The ceremony started at 10:00 am. All EMS Week Members from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota were there to witness the signing of the proclamation for the 2007 Emergency Medical Services Week and Emergency Medical Service for Children Day. EMS Week was proclaimed from May 20-26, 2007 and EMSC – Day was proclaimed for May 23, 2007. This signing was in conjunction with the 2007 Buckle-Up CNMI Mobilization and 2007 Police Week.
Emergency Medical Services Overview

The Chairman of the 2007 “Click it or Ticket”, Officer Regino Celis, also showcased his program by displaying various equipments, supplies and educational material during the event. The program had an opportunity to interact with people and most especially parents of children and to remind them the importance of seatbelts and child passenger safety.

The event started from 9:00 am to about 2:00 pm. The EMS, EMSC, along with CIOT committee anticipated total participants of about 300 people. The number of people during the event exceeded all expectations. A total 376 signed in for this first ever fire house open house. Not to mention, the numbers only reflected to the ones that signed in. Included in the event was fun and games for all ages. The 7th Fire Academy Cycle cadets assisted as far as putting these games together, while the EMS committees through the help of Baby Pedro Memorial Fund designate prizes for the games. Throughout the event, it was broadcasted live via local radio station. The live broadcast helped in terms of more and more participants showing up as the event continued.
Ambulance and Rescue Unit Response to Motor Vehicle Crashes

- **Ambulance Response**
- **Rescue Unit Response**

![Graph showing ambulance response to motor vehicle crashes from 1998 to 2007](chart.png)
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE WEEK
May 20–26, 2007
“Serving Ordinary People, Extraordinary Service”
A Proclamation

WHEREAS, in the year 2006 there were 4,304 emergency medical related responses in the CNMI, a significant decrease from 5307 in 2005; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services are a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready 24 hours a day, seven days a week to provide lifesaving care to those in need; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of emergency physicians, emergency nurses, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, educators, administrators and others; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week; now

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENIGNO R. FITIAL, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth, do hereby proclaim May 20-26, 2007, as EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK. I encourage the community to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities while recognizing the value and service of each member of the Emergency Medical Services team.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 9th day of May 2007.

[Signature]  
GOVERNOR
Advertising-PM

The Department of Public Safety continues to utilize the funding for printing of highway safety educational materials and promotional materials for annual Child Passenger Safety Week, “Click It or Ticket” National Enforcement Mobilization, fourth of July celebration and during the December 3D month campaign. “Drunk Driving Over the Limit. Under Arrest.” National Enforcement Crackdown. Every year we continues to work hand in hand with the Radio Station’s for both am/fm in producing and airing the highway safety related tips as a public service announcement (PSA’s) on seat belt and driving under the influence of alcohol and or other drugs.

The local newspaper’s and magazines play a major role in publication of our highway safety messages which distributes copies to Saipan, Tinian and Rota. Efforts to reach out the community through expanding our public information and education through the two (2) Electronic Messages Board that runs our highway safety message for the driver’s and passenger’s awareness. This electronic message board were also link to different location on such as the restaurant’s, and other meeting places as well. Advertising or publishing will continue in reaching the community awareness and to give more attention to visitor’s visiting the CNMI and to make aware other ethnic groups on island.
The CNMI Department of Public Safety continues to work hard and focus more attention on highway safety related issues, with the limited manpower resources for continuation of enforcement on seat belt violations on Saipan, Tinian and Rota, the needs to continue addressing the problem as well as public information and education should be kept as one of the Department top priority.

### Year 2000-2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>5 yr avg</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>% Change 2006 vs. 2007</th>
<th>% Change 5yr avg vs. 2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Restraint Survey</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>-1%</td>
<td>+16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupant Protection Survey</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>-1%</td>
<td>+1%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

The seat belt usage rate percentage decreased from 83% to 82% in 2007, this is a one percent decrease. However, in comparing the five year’s average it shows that every year the usage rate increase and our goals to increase to 85% in 2008.

As of November of 2007 the CNMI Department of Public Safety conducted six (6) child restraint and seat belt Checkpoints. Due to limited manpower (Police Officer’s) resources at the Department of Public Safety was not able to conduct thirty (30) Car Seat and Seat Belt Checkpoint in 2007.

### Police Traffic Services

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Traffic Crashes Reported</td>
<td>2124</td>
<td>2561</td>
<td>2533</td>
<td>3246</td>
<td>3828</td>
<td>3325</td>
<td>3772</td>
<td>As of Nov 2410</td>
<td>+47%</td>
<td>-73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Traffic Fatalities</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-1%</td>
<td>-2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2007, majority of traffic crashes reported consists of auto/auto traffic related crashes second by auto park vehicle. Again, with the shortage of manpower (Police Officer’s) the needs to increase Police Officer’s assign to traffic section is in demand to expose or to deter and enforce traffic violations.

We continue to works closely with Patrol and Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP) to continue enforce traffic violations, to assist on public information and education program so that the driver’s or motorists can be more educated on traffic safety in the CNMI. Also, the need of Officer’s training on traffic related matters needs to continue in order for the Officer’s to update their knowledge in dealing with traffic related matters. The number of traffic crashes continued its exacerated by the large number of differ-
CNMI Highway Safety Programs

Performance Goals & Objectives

Alcohol and Other Drugs Countermeasures

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DUI Arrest</td>
<td>494</td>
<td>596</td>
<td>475</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>As of Nov 263</td>
<td>-18%</td>
<td>-43.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUI Fatalities</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As mentioned, the Department of Public Safety demand to increase manpower is long over due. This depleted was through retirement and resignation of law enforcement officer’s. Presently, only (3) DUI enforcement officers are working on a 12 hours schedule covering the entire island of about 61,000 population on the island of Saipan. For the other (2) islands Tinian and Rota is about 3,000 to 4,000 population each.

The Department of Public Safety on Saipan, Tinian and Rota continue to put efforts with its limited resources to enforce DUI related violations and utilized some of the funding on DUI education by printing educational materials that were distributed during the checkpoint and display. The plan is to add additional 8ft X 8ft signboards at different location on Saipan, Tinian and Rota. The signboard will be use for our annual campaign on highway safety.

We continue to work closely with the media especially with radio station’s both am/fm in broadcasting our highway safety messages hourly and during hourly traffic report to remind the listeners about the danger of drinking and driving to include seat belt and Emergency Medical Services safety tips. We will update or produce new T.V. commercial on DUI to alternate the old DUI commercial that were played during the mobilization period, fourth of July celebration and during December 3D month campaign.
Performance and Corrective Measures:

**Occupant Protection:**
- Continue to support and put more attention on highway safety programs with the acknowledgement of the Commissioner of Public Safety and the Resident Directors of Tinian and Rota.
- Continue our enforcement efforts on Occupant Protection programs
- Continue to provide education and awareness on seat belt through local newspapers, magazines and produce NEW 25/30 seconds seat belt T.V commercial.
- Continue to conduct Car Seat/Seat Belt Checkpoint, and conduct Courtesy Inspection.
- Continue to provide incentives (Promotional items) during annual awareness week.
- Continue to provide public awareness for driver’s or motorists on seat belt information on 8ft X 8ft vinyl signboard posted along the major intersection’s on Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

**Police Traffic Services:**
- Continue to work together with the Department of Public Works in addressing problem highways and the Bureau of Motor Vehicles since there is a new law in place for driver education
- Continue our enforcement efforts, enforcing traffic violation, work on our pedestrian problems and address those problems through the traffic engineering at the Department of Public Works.
- Continue to work closely with other government agencies and private businesses on our education on traffic safety at schools, community meetings and through local annual events.
- Continue our Laser Speed enforcement, Selective Traffic Law Enforcement (STLE), and to seek the support and approval of the supervisor or ranking Officer’s fro the department (DPS) to increase manpower in patrolling the streets to prevent, deter, and reduce traffic crashes injuries and/or fatalities.

**Alcohol and Other Drugs Countermeasures (AL):**
- Assess our current DUI arrests and fatalities that occur each year, need to look into putting more Police Officers on the street during evening hours and on weekends. To work hard in reducing the number of DUI arrests and to maintain or to zero out the fatality which occurs each year.
- Continue to enforce all DUI related violations, and to conduct Sobriety Checkpoints, and Highway Criminal Interdiction.
- Continue to request for additional manpower for Traffic/DUI Section to assist in enforcing traffic DUI violations.
- Continue to work closely with the media on our DUI education, and prevention messages on DUI.

*Lastly, continue working with the CNMI Safe & Sober/Baby Pedro Foundation on all CNMI highway Safety programs necessities in preventing traffic/DUI fatality or serious injuries on our highways.*
**YEARLY REGISTERED VEHICLE’S & DRIVER’S**

### Yearly Vehicles Registered

![Graph showing yearly vehicles registered with categories for Sedans, Jeeps, Passeng'r Wagon and Light P/Up & Trucks.](image)

### Registered Driver’s

![Graph showing registered driver’s with categories for New Drivers License and Renewal Drivers License.](image)
Financial Section

FY 2007:
* Section 402
* SAFETY-LU-K2 Sect 405
* Section 406
* (Section 408) State Highway Information System

Approved, Expenditure & Balance
402 Funding: 
Balance, Expenditure & Total Approval

**APPROVED**

- **$317,062.00**
- **$61,638.00**
- **$35,756.00**
- **$63,837.00**
- **$118,055.00**
- **$375,644.00**

- Planning & Admin (P&A)
- Occupant Protection (OP/CR)
- Police Traffic Services (PTS)
- Alcohol (AL)
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
- Paid Media (PM)
- Traffic Records (TR)

**EXPENDITURE**

- **$133,244.00**
- **$46,102.00**
- **$66,946.00**
- **$10,684.00**
- **$45,991.92**
- **$44,454.89**

- Planning & Admin (P&A)
- Occupant Protection (OP/CR)
- Police Traffic Services (PTS)
- Alcohol (AL)
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
- Paid Media (PM)
- Traffic Records (TR)
FY 2007 402 Funding Balance

FY2006: Occupant Protection (Sect 405) Safety-LU-K2 & Section 406 and Sect 2003 (b) CPPE
FY2006: Occupant Protection (Sect 405)
Safety-LU-K2 & Section 406 and Sect 2003 (b) CPPE

**Expenditure**

- $945.00
- $1,146.00
- $0.00
- $32,305.43

- **Occupant Protection Incentive (Sect 405)**
- **SAFETY_LU K2 (Section 405)**
- **SECTION 406**
- **Child Passenger Protection Education**

**Balance**

- $784,250.00
- $63.00
- $0.00
- $0.00

- **Occupant Protection Incentive (Sect 405)**
- **SAFETY_LU K2 (Section 405)**
- **SECTION 406**
- **Child Passenger Protection Education**
Section 408 State Traffic Information System

(Section 408) State Traffic Information Systems

- $300,000.00
- $300,000.00

Approved

Balance