Learning Objectives

- Define quick clearance and describe the benefits of quick clearance
- List the strategies needed to implement a multi-agency quick clearance policy
- Describe the current local status of towing regulations related to clearance of truck crashes
Definition of Clearance?

**Safely and Quickly** remove vehicles, debris, spilled cargo; restore the roadway to full capacity
Objectives of Incident Clearance

- Remove the incident from the road as quickly as possible
- Ensure safety of responders, victims and other motorists by reducing the chances of secondary incidents
"Bang for your Buck"

“Rapid Response and Clearance is the Single most Effective Incident Management Strategy”\(^1\)

(1) Findings and Conclusions - FHWA Demo Project 86
Quick Clearance Strategies

- Service Patrols
- Liability exemption
- Move-it or Steer-it-clear-it Law
- Expedited diesel fuel clean-up
- Enhance technology and prioritize police investigative tasks
- Create a Recovery class of heavy tows
Quick Clearance

What does it mean to you?

What could be components of, or strategies for, a Quick Clearance Program?
DOT Operated Service Patrols

Illinois has hands free under reach tow unit

Tennessee uses a nylon tow strap and push bumper
An Interstate should not be Shut Down by Tow Operators
Turn Back the Clock Five Hours
Outdated 25-ton Tow
Pair of 60-ton Rotators
60-ton Unit Relocating a Loaded Overturned Truck
Highway Maintenance and Construction Equipment

for the right job

The right tools
Crash Investigation Technology

Three dimensional photo textured wireframe, ready for import to CAD program in DXF format (if required).

DeChant Consulting Services-DCS
Forensic Photogrammetry
www.gpsnetconseors
Good TIM Programs can Reduce Liability Risks

- Puts Public Safety Ahead of Property Concerns
- Limits Responder Exposure
- Reduces Secondary Crashes
- Validates that the Actions Taken Were in the “Interest of Safety”
Changes Made in Clearance ‘SOP’

**Administrative or Departmental Policy**

- DOT — Incident Response plans with established goals and incident data tracking
- Police — major crash investigation policy with clearance goals
- Tow-truck standards updated — established a **Recovery Class**
- Push Bumpers on Police Squads
- Development of Accident Investigation Sites
- Establish or expand Service Patrol programs
Changes Made in Clearance ‘SOP’ (cont'd)

**Agency Agreement or MOU**

- An **Open Roads** policy that states the quick clearance philosophy and sets goals
- An agreement with the Medical Examiner’s office — improved response or delegation
- An effective, common sense policy for mitigation of diesel fuel spills on the travel lanes (multi-agency)
- Agreement to conduct multi-agency training exercises and cross training
Changes Made in Clearance ‘SOP’ (cont'd)

**Legislative**

- Motor Vehicle Law requiring motorists to move damaged vehicles out of traffic, ‘Move-It’ Law
- Establish or expand a liability exemption to include DOT, Tow Operators as well as Police and Fire
- Mandate training and competency certification for tow operators
Quick Clearance Success Story

Wash DOT, State Patrol and Recovery Tow Class
Video Presentation

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Final Exercise

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Review Learning Objectives

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