

# FOCUS ON SAFETY Symposium

*A Practical Look at Automated Traffic Enforcement*

October 12, 2007

Greater Ft. Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center

Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

## **A Look at the Research**

# Photo Enforcement — Proven Results

By a margin of 11 to 1, leading research studies reviewed for the *Focus on Safety* guide\* confirm that photo enforcement reduces crashes and saves lives.

\*Reference for this and all contents of presentation:  
National Campaign to Stop Red Light Running.  
2007. *Focus on Safety: A Practical Guide to  
Automated Traffic Enforcement*. Washington, DC.

# A Few Recent Results:

- In **Columbus, Ohio**, the number of red light runners caught at intersections with cameras dropped from 1,684 in March 2006 to 477 in August 2006, a 71% decrease. Note: No rear-end crashes during those six months.
- A 2006 study of the red light camera program in **Garland, Texas**, found crashes caused by red light runners decreased by 56% at intersections with cameras; crashed at intersections without cameras decreased by 38%.
- **Ventura, California**, has seen red light running crashes drop 80% at intersections with cameras and a 29% reduction in red light running crashes across the city.
- In **Washington, D.C.**, almost 1 in 3 motorists were found to be speeding at the beginning of the photo speed enforcement program in 2001. In September 2006, the number dropped to less than 1 in 55.
- For more results, see page 20 of *Focus on Safety* guide.

# Work Zone Safety

- Speeding plays a major role in work zone crashes, which are on the rise. From 1996 to 2005, fatalities in work zones increased from 715 to 1,074.
- More than 40,000 people are injured each year as a result of motor vehicle crashes in work zones. In 2004, there were an estimated 115,000 work zone crashes and an estimated 49,620 people were injured in work zone crashes.

## ***To Put it in Perspective***

One work zone fatality occurs every 8.2 hours (3 a day).  
One work zone injury occurs every 9 minutes (160 a day).

# Illinois Work Zone Safety Program

- In 2004, Illinois became the first U.S. state to authorize speed cameras in highway work zones. The state uses several vans equipped with photo enforcement technology and deploys them to work zones across the state.



Signs of Change



2007 National



Work Zone



Awareness Week



# Highway-Rail Grade Crossings

- Motorists too often try to beat the train. Studies show that almost 50 percent of vehicle/train crashes occur at crossings with active warning devices (gates, lights, bells).
- A study in Illinois found reductions in gate violations at photo enforced crossings ranged from 47 to 87 percent.
- The Metro Blue Line in Los Angeles, a light rail transit program, experienced a 96 percent reduction in violations after cameras were installed at 17 of their rail crossings.