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Practices for Sharing Drug Recognition Expert Resources

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Executive Summary

Drug recognition experts (DRE) are law enforcement officers trained and certified through their State DRE programs and credentialed through the International Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC) program to recognize impairment in drivers under the influence of drugs other than, or in addition to, alcohol (Talpins, Hayes, & Kimball, 2018). To become a DRE, a law enforcement officer must complete 72 hours of coursework in addition to completing an approved Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) course and a minimum of 12 evaluations under supervision of a trained DRE instructor (International Association of Chiefs of Police, n.d.).

Although there are DREs in all 50 States and the District of Columbia, the number of DREs in a State often does not correlate with the number of law enforcement agencies in the State or the size of the State. For example, as of December 2020 Virginia had 22 DREs from 12 agencies (IACP, 2020). However, the 2008 Census of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies (the most recent data available) indicated there were 22,848 sworn personnel and 340 State and local law enforcement agencies in Virginia (Reaves, 2011). Likewise, while Colorado had 179 DREs from 62 agencies as of December 2020 (IACP, 2020), this still makes up a small percentage of total sworn personnel (12,069) and State and local law enforcement agencies (246) in the State (based on 2008 data) (Reaves, 2011).

In some cases, such as for smaller departments, lack of staffing and manpower make it difficult to send an officer to DRE training. In other cases, departments do not see the value in sending officers to DRE training, believing their officers are already well trained in recognizing drug-impaired driving (Engage IACP, n.d.). Therefore, it is important that those agencies that do invest in DRE training make their DREs available to other agencies in their State or locality and have policies and procedures in place to facilitate the sharing of DRE resources.

Sharing DRE resources maximizes the benefits of DRE training, reduces the hardship of lengthy drug-impaired-driving investigations on small law enforcement agencies, provide expert testimony in the courtroom, which in turn helps to successfully prosecute drug-impaired drivers. The combination of all these factors helps to reduce the numbers of drug-impaired drivers.

This report presents findings of research to understand how State and local law enforcement agencies have successfully shared DRE resources. For the purposes of this report, sharing DRE resources refers to making DREs from one agency or jurisdiction available to other nearby agencies or jurisdictions to respond to DRE callout requests. The researchers gathered the information for this report by conducting a literature review and interviewing DRE coordinators from six State and three local law enforcement agencies to learn more about their DRE callout programs. The report summarizes key aspects of successfully sharing DRE resources and includes examples demonstrating how agencies share DREs and respond to callouts. Agencies and jurisdictions of all sizes and geographic localities can use this report to enhance existing DRE callout programs or implement new programs that involve sharing DREs across organizations.

Planning and Implementing DRE Resource-Sharing

Typically, a statewide DRE coordinator will initiate statewide DRE resource-sharing, or a DRE from a local agency will take the initiative to develop and implement a callout process involving

DREs from local agencies. Planning and implementing DRE resource-sharing does not have to be a time consuming, complex process. The key elements to planning for and successfully sharing DREs are identifying all stakeholders that will be involved, building and maintaining awareness of the availability of DRE sharing, and identifying and overcoming challenges.

Identifying Stakeholders

It is important at the early stages of developing a DRE resource-sharing program to identify all stakeholders from the various agencies needed to be involved, to obtain buy-in from these stakeholders to participate in the sharing, and to identify specific roles as needed, such as a DRE callout coordinator. These stakeholders may include the DRE State coordinator, the State Police or Highway Patrol, the State Highway Safety Office, chiefs, or sheriffs from the agencies involved, dispatch, emergency operations centers, States Attorney's office, traffic safety resource prosecutors, and others. The agency serving as the champion for managing DRE resource-sharing must also identify roles for the stakeholders, such as a main point-of-contact for callouts, who maintains and updates the contact list, who is responsible for maintenance and updates of any technologies used, etc.

Building and Maintaining Awareness

Statewide DRE callout programs seem to place more emphasis on outreach to other agencies and building awareness of the program versus smaller regional programs that are easily able to share DRE availability by word-of-mouth. For statewide programs, it is important to ensure that all agencies in the State are aware of the callout program and that agencies without DREs know how they can contact a DRE if needed. DRE State coordinators often give presentations about the callout programs at meetings such as State Police chief and sheriff meetings. Having data to show the success of the program is important to getting agencies to participate in the callout program.

Overcoming Challenges

Funding is the most common challenge to implementing a DRE callout program with resource-sharing among several agencies. This includes funding to pay for overtime and determining who pays the overtime, as well as funding for tools and technology used for the callout program. The agencies interviewed for this report noted that grant funding has been especially helpful to building and maintaining successful callout programs.

Other challenges include tracking callouts when the DRE is not from the requesting agency, obtaining data to show the success of the program, getting buy-in from agencies to participate in callouts; and getting DREs who are willing to respond to callouts outside their areas. Agencies have had success in tracking callouts manually in spreadsheets or by entering callout information in State-maintained DRE data entry systems. Agencies have gained buy-in for callout participation through outreach to inform agencies about the benefits of DREs and DRE sharing, as well as by paying overtime for callouts and recognizing the work of DREs.

Policies and Procedures

Most DRE programs do not have formal policies for resource-sharing. In some States agency leadership signs a memorandum of understanding for its DREs indicating that DREs are to be made available to assist other agencies when needed. In other cases, mutual aid agreements

between participating agencies govern DRE-sharing. There are also many agencies that do not have any type of agreement and simply indicate by word-of-mouth that their DREs are available to assist other agencies.

An important part of a DRE callout program is having a central place for officers to call or text to request DREs. In most cases a callout involves either a phone call to a central dispatch or emergency operations center and contacting of a DRE by the center or the requesting officer contacts the DRE directly either through a text or phone call. Use of a central center is more common for statewide DRE callout programs, while directly contacting DREs is more common in smaller, regional callout programs.

Tools and Technologies

Sharing DRE resources through a formal or informal callout program does not require expensive tools or technologies. Technologies typically used range from phone calls and simple group text messages or apps to software. In some instances, States have developed in-house software or web-based programs for callouts, or have their callouts integrated into existing emergency management systems, but this is not typical.

Costs, Funding, and Officer Compensation

The primary costs related to sharing DREs and a callout program are the cost of tools and technologies to manage the callouts and the costs for overtime pay when DREs are called out while off duty. Funding for callout programs often comes from grants through State Departments of Transportation or State Highway Safety Offices. This funding pays for overtime that arises from DREs being called out when they are off duty. It varies as to who pays for overtime when DREs respond to callouts from other agencies when they are off duty. Some States and localities require the requesting agency to pay for the overtime, while others prefer to keep everything simple and have each agency pay for its own officers' overtime, even if they are helping another agency.

Summary

DREs are important assets to law enforcement, especially with the rise in DUID cases. However, to become a DRE, a law enforcement officer must complete 72 hours of coursework in addition to completing an approved SFST course and a minimum of 12 evaluations under supervision of a trained DRE instructor. Becoming a certified DRE and maintaining certification is a labor-intensive process, and as a result some agencies may not have the manpower available to send officers to DRE training, removing them from the street for extended periods. Therefore, sharing DRE resources between agencies in a local jurisdiction or statewide is an important component to maximizing the benefits of DREs. Having a champion for DRE-sharing and ensuring that nearby agencies or all agencies in a State are aware of the availability of DREs across agencies are perhaps the most important components of successfully sharing DRE resources.

Introduction

DREs are law enforcement officers trained and certified through their State DRE Program and credentialed through the international DEC program to recognize impairment in drivers under the influence of drugs other than or in addition to alcohol (Talpins, Hayes, & Kimball, 2018). DREs are an important asset to law enforcement, as drug-impaired driving (DUID) cases are on the rise. In a NHTSA study of several trauma centers from October to December 2020, there were 56% of drivers involved in serious or fatal crashes tested positive for at least one drug category (including alcohol) and 22.8% tested positive for more than one drug category. For the same time period in 2019, by comparison, 51.6% tested positive for at least one drug category and 16.9% for two or more categories (Office of Behavioral Safety Research, 2021).

Although there are DREs in all 50 States and the District of Columbia, the number of DREs in a State often does not correlate with the number of law enforcement officers or agencies in the State. For example, as of December 2020, Virginia had 22 DREs from 12 agencies (International Association of Chiefs of Police, 2020). However, the 2008 Census of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies (the most recent data available) indicated there were 22,848 sworn personnel and 340 State and local law enforcement agencies in Virginia (Reaves, 2011). Likewise, while Colorado had 179 DREs from 62 agencies as of December 2020 (International Association of Chiefs of Police, 2020), this still makes up a small percentage of total sworn personnel (12,069) and State and local law enforcement agencies (246) in the State (based on 2008 data) (Reaves, 2011).

Becoming a DRE, a law enforcement officer must complete 72 hours of coursework in addition to completing an approved Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) course and a minimum of 12 evaluations under supervision of a trained DRE instructor (International Association of Chiefs of Police, n.d.). In some cases, such as for smaller departments, lack of staffing and manpower makes it difficult to send an officer to DRE training. In other cases, departments do not see the value in sending one or more officers to DRE training, believing that their officers are already well trained in recognizing drug-impaired driving (Engage IACP, n.d.). Therefore, it is important that those agencies that do invest in DRE training make their DREs available to other agencies within their State or locality and have policies and procedures in place to facilitate the sharing of DRE resources. This includes sharing DREs with State commercial vehicle enforcement units and local Drug Enforcement Agency task forces, among others.

Drug-Impaired Driving: A Guide for States (Governors Highway Safety Association, 2017) describes the need and benefit of DRE sharing within a State, “To be effective, a DRE should be available to evaluate a substantial proportion of drivers suspected of impairment by drugs. This means that a State must have an adequate number of DREs and they should be located throughout the State.” Sharing DRE resources maximizes the benefits of DRE training by making DREs available to agencies that may not have the ability to send officers to DRE training, reduces the hardship of lengthy drug-impaired driving investigations on small law enforcement agencies.

Objectives and Scope of This Report

This report presents the findings of a project to understand how State and local law enforcement agencies have successfully shared DRE resources. It summarizes key aspects of successfully sharing DRE resources and includes examples demonstrating how agencies share DREs and respond to callouts. “Sharing DRE resources” refers to making DREs from one agency or jurisdiction available to other nearby agencies or jurisdictions to respond to DRE callout requests. The researchers gathered the information for this report by conducting a literature review and interviewing DRE coordinators from five State and four local law enforcement agencies to learn more about their DRE callout programs. Appendix A provides more details about the research approach.

Target Audience

This report is intended for State and local law enforcement agencies who employ one or more DREs they are willing to share with other agencies, as well as for law enforcement agencies that do not currently have any DREs but would like to set up resource-sharing with other nearby agencies with DREs. State and regional DRE coordinators may be especially interested in this report; however, the information is presented in a way that allows any DRE from a local agency to use the information to initiate resource-sharing. States and jurisdictions of all sizes and geographic localities can use this report to enhance existing DRE callout programs or implement new programs that involve sharing DREs across organizations.

What Is Covered and How to Use This Report

This report is organized by the following sections.

- **Planning and Implementing DRE Resource-Sharing** – This section covers topics related to the initial planning and then implementing DRE resource-sharing, including identifying stakeholders, building and maintaining awareness, and identifying and overcoming challenges.
- **Policies and Procedures** – This section covers the types of policies and procedures, both formal and informal, that State and local agencies use to manage DRE resource-sharing.
- **Tools and Technologies** – This section discusses the types of tools and technologies that are used to facilitate DRE resource-sharing, from simple text-based systems to web-based emergency management systems.
- **Costs, Funding, and Officer Compensation** – This section discusses costs related to DRE resource-sharing, how DRE resource-sharing is commonly funded across several agencies, and how officers can be compensated for overtime work performed for agencies other than their own.
- **Case Studies** – This section summarizes the DRE resource-sharing effort for eight selected agencies. These case studies provide information about resource-sharing at the Statewide and local level and illustrate the use of a range of technologies and both formal and informal processes and procedures.
- **Summary: Tips and Recommendations for Implementing DRE Resource-Sharing** – This section summarizes the key findings from each section of this report.

States and agencies that do not currently share DRE resources are encouraged to identify the elements from each section that meets their needs. For example, smaller local agencies may be more interested in using a text-based approach for callouts, while Statewide programs may be more interested in a more-robust, web-based system through a central dispatch or emergency operations center. States and agencies that currently share DRE resources may choose to focus on sections where they think improvement or enhancement to their resource-sharing may be needed.

Planning and Implementing DRE Resource-Sharing

Planning and implementing DRE resource-sharing does not have to be a time-consuming, complex process. The first step in the process is to have a champion who takes responsibility for planning and implementing DRE resource-sharing. Typically, this would be a statewide DRE coordinator when the effort is for statewide DRE resource-sharing, or a DRE from a local agency might take the initiative to develop and implement a callout process involving DREs from local agencies. This champion must then identify the stakeholders that need to be involved and get their buy-in, work with the stakeholders to identify a process for how DRE callouts involving DREs from agencies will be handled, obtain signed agreements if required, and set up any necessary email or text lists or technology. Once the process is in place, it is important to make other agencies and officers aware of the availability of DREs in their region who can support them and the process for contacting a DRE when needed. It is also important to identify challenges that may be faced when working with agencies and strategies for overcoming them.

Identifying Stakeholders

Successful implementation of DRE resource-sharing first requires identifying all of the stakeholders that will be involved and then working with these stakeholders to implement a callout program that uses DREs from different agencies, obtaining buy-in to the benefits of doing so if needed. These stakeholders may include the DRE State coordinator, the State Police or Highway Patrol, the State Highway Safety Office, chiefs, or sheriffs from the agencies that will be involved, dispatch, emergency operations centers, States Attorney's office, traffic safety resource prosecutors, and others.

Once the stakeholders are identified it is important to hold discussions about who will serve as the primary point of contact for the callout program, who will maintain the callout list of DREs, how the DRE sharing and callouts will work, if signed memoranda of understanding or mutual aid agreements are necessary, and who will pay for overtime when a DRE from one agency supports another agency. While sharing of DREs does not have to be a formal program, it is still important to ensure that all involved are on the same page and have the same understanding of how the sharing and callout program will work.

Building and Maintaining Awareness

In order to successfully share DREs, other agencies must be aware of the availability of DREs outside their agency and the process for calling out a DRE. In some cases, especially in smaller localities, word-of-mouth is used to share information about DRE availability. Smaller regions also ensure that agencies know about the availability of DREs by posting DRE callout information in the jails, on crash reports, or even as stickers on breathalyzer devices with the DRE callout phone numbers or other contact information. Statewide DRE callout programs tend to have broader outreach efforts to ensure all agencies within the State are aware of the program and how to get DREs when needed.

DRE State coordinators should consider themselves “sales people” for the DRE program, “selling” to other agencies the availability of DREs and benefits of using them. These coordinators often give presentations about the callout programs at various meetings, such as State Police chief and sheriff meetings.

It is also important that DREs sell themselves. DREs in Ohio are encouraged to make business cards and hand them out to other agencies so that officers know they are there and available. The goal is to have officers call DREs directly when they are needed, rather than having to go through their central callout hubs.

The Colorado Department of Transportation holds what it calls “listening tours” in which the DRE State coordinator and others visit agencies around the State to hear about their DRE needs, challenges they are facing, and changes that may be needed to the callout process.

The Oregon DEC State coordinator and the 6 regional coordinators meet annually to ensure that the same message is being spread across the State regarding DRE availability. They use a three-pronged approach to raise awareness, targeting their message to officers, departments, and the general public. The State coordinator attends the quarterly meetings of local police departments and reaches out to new police chiefs annually. Additionally, the program includes raising awareness with, and ultimately training, the seven Tribal police departments.¹ The State coordinator regularly conducts DRE callout webinars that both inform and raise awareness of Oregon’s DRE sharing program. The coordinator typically shares the data from DRE callouts, allowing police chiefs to understand the trends in their areas.

Ohio places value on having accurate data about DREs and the callout program. This data comes from tracking software used by all DREs. The Ohio State Highway Patrol developed a dashboard with metrics on the work that DREs do and to help identify where more DREs are needed. The State DRE coordinator uses this data to develop an internal annual report separate from the report that is submitted to the IACP. This report is shared with a network of law enforcement liaisons in Ohio that promote traffic safety. The data helps to show that the benefits of DREs outweigh the costs and helps encourage agencies to participate in the callout program.

Overcoming Challenges

Funding is the most common challenge to implementing a DRE callout program with resource-sharing among several agencies. This includes funding to pay for overtime and determining who pays the overtime, as well as funding for tools and technology used for the callout program. The agencies interviewed for this report noted that grant funding through their State Highway Safety Office or other State agencies has been especially helpful to building and maintaining a successful callout program.

Other challenges include tracking callouts when the DRE is not from the requesting agency, obtaining data to show the success of the program, getting buy-in from agencies to participate in callouts; and getting DREs who are willing to respond to callouts outside of their areas. Agencies have had success in tracking callouts manually in spreadsheets or by entering callout information in State DRE data entry systems. Data from tracking callouts has been useful for identifying areas that need more DREs. Agencies have gained buy-in for callout participation through outreach to inform agencies about the benefits of DREs and how sharing DREs among agencies reduces the workload for each DRE in that they do not have to always be available. Furthermore,

¹ Burns Paiute Tribal Police Department; Coquille Indian Tribal Police Department; Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Enforcement Department; Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians Police Department; Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Tribal Police; Umatilla Tribal Police Department; Warm Springs Tribal Police Department.

paying overtime and recognizing DREs in some manner, even if just to tell them they are doing a great job, helps encourage response to callouts.

Policies and Procedures

Sharing DREs across jurisdictions does not require complex policies and procedures. In many cases agencies do not have written policies regarding the sharing of DREs and rely on informal or word of mouth processes and procedures. Processes for DRE sharing varies across agencies and range from simple telephone calls or texts to request a DRE to software-based callout systems run through emergency operations centers or central dispatch centers. The following section will provide an overview of these processes and the technologies used will be discussed further in the Technologies section of this report.

Policies

Most agencies studied for this report do not have formal policies for callouts or sharing of DREs. Often the agency's general orders or DRE standard operating procedures simply state that DREs can be requested from other agencies or used by other agencies, but there are no written process in these documents for how to do so. It is also common for several agencies to have a joint memorandum of understanding (MOU) or mutual aid agreement in place that allows agencies to share DREs when needed. In addition, many States include statements in their DRE commitment pledges that indicates the DREs and their supervisors are aware that the DREs may be called out by other agencies within the State. Examples of how law enforcement agencies formalize policies for callouts are below.

General Orders

The Jacksonville Beach (Florida) Police Department's (JBPD) General Orders reference using outside agencies. G.O. 314.12 (B) states, "If a Jacksonville Beach Police Department DRE is unavailable, the requesting officer will obtain a supervisor's approval in order to request a DRE from the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office. If there are no DREs available from either agency, the on-duty supervisor may request an off-duty JBPD DRE to respond." However, the JBPD also has a mutual aid agreement in place with the Neptune Beach Police Department and the Atlantic Beach Police Department. If a DRE is needed in Jacksonville Beach and not available from the JBPD or the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, the Jacksonville Beach DUI unit will check with other agencies either by phone or radio for an on-duty DRE before they initiate a callout.

Standard Operating Procedures

The DRE Standard Operating Procedures for the Tampa (Florida) Police Department include the following.

- A current listing of DRE phone numbers will be maintained and available at the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Central Breath Testing Center.
- The DRE may be requested to assist other law enforcement agencies in drug influence evaluations. In these situations, the DRE will follow the procedures established by this agency.

DRE Policy

The Livingston County Sheriff's Office DRE Policy includes the following: All activations of a DRE off duty whether for this office or another agency in or out of the county can be approved

by the patrol supervisor and a LCSO supervisors page will be sent. Activations of DREs whether on duty or off duty for out-of-county agencies require a LCSO supervisor page

MOUs and Commitment Pledges

In some cases, agency leadership is required to sign an MOU for their DREs that states that DREs are to be made available to assist other agencies. In other cases, mutual aid agreements between participating agencies govern DRE sharing. Another approach taken by some agencies is to have a commitment pledge by the DRE that must be signed by agency leadership for any officer applying for DRE school. The DRE and leadership signatures acknowledge the time commitment and agree that the DRE will be available to assist other agencies as needed. These pledges often include the statement that the DRE will, “Be willing to respond, when needed by other officers, in or around my county that are requesting my services.” The following links go to examples of a memorandum of understanding, commitment pledges, and a shared services agreement between two localities.

- **Commitment Pledges**
 - Arkansas: www.cji.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Arkansas-DRE-Commitment-Pledge.pdf
 - Colorado: www.codot.gov/safety/dre/assets/dre-candidate-commitment-form.doc
 - Missouri: www.mshp.dps.missouri.gov/MSHPWeb/PatrolDivisions/TND/documents/2021DREApplicationPledge.pdf
- **Shared Services Agreement** for DRE callouts between the Township of Jackson and the County of Ocean/Ocean Prosecutors Office in New Jersey. <http://njlm.generalcode.com/sites/default/files/DRE%20Callout%20Program.pdf>
- **DRE Memorandum of Understanding** between the Sequim Police Department and Washington Traffic Safety Commission to provide overtime funding to Washington State law enforcement agencies that respond to DRE callouts from the Washington State Patrol. www.sequimwa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/18156/Drug-Recognition-Experts-Memorandum-of-Understanding-2021

Procedures

Most shared-DRE callout programs operate by having a central point of contact such as a dispatch center or emergency operations center, a text- or group-chat-based list, or directly contacting the DREs available to the jurisdiction. In addition to a process for how the callout is conducted, it is important to have a process for data collection related to callouts as this information can be used to quantify the benefits of DRE resource-sharing and help identify where additional DREs may be needed.

It is important to know that callout procedures don't necessarily mean that the DRE has to appear in person to conduct testing. In some cases, the DRE may speak with the arresting officer over the phone to offer suggestions and recommendations. This is especially useful when a callout occurs late at night and the closest DRE is still a distance away from the requesting agency. For example, in Ohio, if it is a first-time impaired driving offense or will result in a misdemeanor charge, and it occurs late at night, a DRE will likely provide guidance to the arresting officer

over the phone rather than appear in person. However, in the case of a repeat offender or likely felony charge, then the DRE would drive to the location to conduct in-person testing.

Central Point-of-Contact, Dispatch Center, or Emergency Operations Center

Delaware officers statewide call a central dispatch center that provides notification to all DREs within the requesting officer's county. If no response is received within 10 minutes, a second notification is broadcast statewide.

The Livingston County (New York) Sheriff's Office has a callout list shared with the Geneseo Police Department that the 911 Center uses when calling out DREs. Officers contact the 911 Center when they need a DRE and the 911 Center contacts the DREs by phone to identify an available DRE. Livingston County also assists other counties, such as Wyoming and Monroe, and the New York State Police when those agencies need a DRE.

The Krugerville (Texas) Police Department does not have a formal policy for resource-sharing but willingly shares their DREs with other agencies. The request from outside agencies is typically made through the county dispatch, who then contacts the county DREs until they find one who is available to respond.

The New Jersey State Patrol (NJSP) Regional Operations & Intelligence Center (ROIC) is the central organization that handles requests for DREs. When State Troopers needs a DRE, they call the ROIC and then the dispatcher pushes a text out through an app to all troopers in all regions requesting an available DRE. Troopers receive the request on their phones and then click on a link to read the full request. If an NJSP DRE is unavailable, the ROIC can also send a request to municipal agencies, but these agencies are not included in the initial callout request. Likewise, municipal agencies can call the ROIC to look for an available NJSP DRE if no municipal DREs are available. The first person to respond to the ROIC text gets the call. That person must notify the DRE coordinator via text when responding to a callout, regardless of the time of day or night.

In Ohio, when an officer who is not a DRE does a drug-impaired-driving arrest, the officer can call or have the dispatcher call the Ohio State Highway Patrol intelligence hub. Most officers are already familiar with the phone number, as there are intelligence analysts available at the hub "24/7." The dispatcher at the hub uses a web-based system called e-notify to select the region where the DRE is needed, types a message (there is a canned message that can be used), and sends the message to the selected region. The responding DRE then calls the hub, and the hub gives them the specifics, such as the requesting agency, the officer's name, and phone number. If no DREs respond within 10 minutes of the request, the hub calls the regional coordinator, and the regional coordinator will respond to the request. If the regional coordinator is not available, the DRE State coordinator will respond.

Group Chat/Text

The Flagler County (Florida) Sheriff's Department has one DRE and has set up a simple group text with DREs from three surrounding counties and the Florida Highway Patrol so that if the Flagler DRE is not available when needed, the DRE can text the group to find an available DRE. Likewise, the DREs from the other involved agencies can text the group if they are unavailable and need a DRE evaluation conducted.

The Peachtree City (Georgia) Police Department uses an app for callout requests, with a chat group that includes all the DREs in Fayette and Coweta Counties. If a DRE receives a request the

DRE cannot fulfill, the DRE puts it in the group chat and another DRE from the group will usually respond. This process has been very successful in increasing availability of DREs as they communicate across several agencies in the two counties to share resources.

Oregon has a statewide callout system and through the use of the system (further described in the Technology section of this report), the system sends a text to the relevant DREs, depending on location, when there is a need for a DRE anywhere within the State.

Phone Calls/Word-of-Mouth

The Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) operates with different informal policies and procedures in different counties. In Marion County there are 4 FHP DREs, 2 DREs with the Ocala Police Department (OPD), and 2 DREs with the Marion County Sheriff's Office (MCSO). FHP and OPD willingly share the DRE assistance while MCSO has a policy to only use its DRE. Much of the shared assistance is word-of-mouth. All DREs in Marion County know each other and, if one gets called and cannot respond, that DRE will call the others. Additionally, in the intoxilyzer room at the jail, a brief DRE callout instruction is posted, along with a list of the DREs with their phone numbers.

The Tampa (Florida) Police Department has 8 DREs. If one of their DREs is not available, there is a list of all DREs in Hillsborough County at the jail and one of those DREs can be called.

While Iowa does not have a statewide DRE callout program, DREs in the State make themselves known and available to all agencies in their geographical areas to assist with impaired driving arrests. Likewise, Mississippi also does not have a statewide callout program, but there is a website with DRE contact information where officers can search for DREs in their areas and contact them when needed.

Although Ohio typically uses the OSHP intelligence hub for callouts, occasionally officers directly contact a DRE rather than go through the hub. For example, if two officers in different agencies are friends and one is a DRE and the other is not, the officer is likely to call his DRE friend first before calling the hub. This type of interaction is encouraged whenever possible to simplify the callout process.

Data Collection

Track how many calls are going out, where the calls are, and what service was provided. If you have data that shows the need for the program and the benefits, agencies will be more likely to participate. Be transparent about your program's data and statistics.

Tools and Technologies

A DRE callout program involving several agencies does not require expensive or complicated tools and technologies. Technologies used range from phone calls and simple SMS group text messages to off-the-shelf applications and software. Occasionally agencies develop their own software or web-based systems for callouts, or integrate callouts within existing emergency management systems, but this is not necessary for a successful callout program.

Setting ground rules for text or group messaging is important. For example, the message system is to only be used for requesting a DRE or responding to a DRE callout and cannot be used for side discussions or non-work-related discussions. Prior to procuring software or an application or setting up a text-based system, agencies should meet with the State Attorney's Office to determine if the messages are open to discovery during investigations and court proceedings.

Regardless of the technology used, it is important to find a partner, most likely a State police agency, willing to serve as system administrator to handle things such as technology updates, adding new DREs to the system, and troubleshooting issues. Alternatively, agencies can hire third-party administrators to maintain the system.

The Case Studies section of this report provides further details about the range of technologies used by various State and local agencies for DRE callouts.

Applications and Software

States use various technologies for DRE callouts such as group messaging apps or cloud-based management systems.

These systems can be compatible with iOS, android, and Window phones that allow for messages to be sent via SMS. There are different apps that can be used by agencies to manage call outs. There are various lists out there that can be used, but this document is no meant to endorse any specific product. Free group-messaging apps are available for iOS, Android, and Windows phones, tablets, and computers. These apps also allow for messages to be sent via SMS. There are different apps that can be used by agencies to manage callouts. There are various lists out there that can be used, but this document is not meant to endorse any specific product.

Free group-messaging apps are available for iOS, Android, and Windows phones, tablets, and computers. These apps also allow messages to be sent via SMS text, making it usable for people who do not have a smartphone.

There are cloud-based critical event management systems often used by State and local governments to notify employees and residents about events ranging from critical, such as severe weather, active shooters or acts of terrorism, to routine, like community events, protests, and construction. In some cases, the DRE callout procedures are added to an existing system, while in other cases, agencies purchase a system specifically for DRE callouts.

Other mobile apps coordinate with dispatchers to send notifications to emergency first responders. It is available to iOS, Android, and Windows phones and can send messages through the app, via SMS, and through email. These apps let users see responses to DRE callout requests, provide locations of users on maps, provide directions to given locations, and allow for data sharing.

In-House Built System

While simple off-the-shelf systems work well, especially for regional DRE sharing, statewide programs may benefit from developing software or web-based tools specifically for DRE callouts. This is simplified when an emergency management system already exists and a DRE callout component can be added to it. Ohio uses a system called the system for callouts, initially developed by the Ohio Department of Public Safety (DPS) as part of an emergency response plan to notify State agency department heads about important events and occurrences within the State. The system sends out text messages, phone calls, and emails. While the system initially only included department heads, it was then expanded to include all State government employees. Each State agency has a division administrator, department administrator, and system administrator for the system to ensure it is maintained correctly. The DRE State coordinator realized that the system would work well for DRE callouts and discussed with DPS adding non-State employees to the system. DPS was amenable to the idea and added contact information for all DREs, broken up into regions. When a call comes into the OHSP intelligence hub, the dispatcher routes the DRE request through the system.

Costs, Funding, and Officer Compensation

The primary costs related to sharing DREs and callout programs are the cost of tools and technologies to manage the callouts and the costs for overtime pay when DREs are called out while off duty. The tools and technologies costs are typically minimal, as agencies often use email, text messaging, or other free apps that can be integrated by DRE programs with existing software or technology. However, there can be cost and funding complexities in determining who pays for the overtime of DREs when they are supporting agencies other than their own.

The simplest solution to paying for overtime is to have each agency pay for its DRE overtime, even when it is assisting other agencies. Some States distribute grant funds through the State Highway Safety Office or other State agencies to all agencies that have DREs. These funds cover overtime pay related to callouts. As a result, most agencies in those States now allow their DREs to be called out by any agency since the States cover the overtime.

In Florida, although each involved agency pays for its own DREs, even when they are responding to calls from other agencies, there is also a callout reimbursement grant funded by the Institute of Police Technology and Management (IPTM). This grant can be used to reimburse up to a certain number of callouts for agencies in the State.

Ohio grant funding is used to pay the regional coordinators for work they do outside the scope of their agencies (i.e., responding to callout requests). However, individual departments are responsible for their own DRE overtime costs.

There are also States and local agencies that request reimbursement when their DREs are used by other agencies and accrue overtime. In New Jersey the county DRE coordinators track requests for municipal callout programs. For most municipal programs, requests for reimbursement are sent by the DRE's department to the county treasurer for the county in which the requesting department is located. The DRE report must accompany the payment request. The DRE's department is reimbursed, and then the department pays the DRE.

Case Studies

The following case studies provide more details about DRE sharing and callout programs in six State agencies and three local agencies. These agencies were selected to provide examples of State and local programs, formal and informal policies and procedures, and the use of simple and more-complex technologies. The information for each State or local agency is based on interviews held with the respective State DRE coordinators and local agency DRE coordinators.

Each case study describes the DRE program background, policies and procedures for resource-sharing, how DRE officer overtime is funded, and lessons learned and successes. Some case studies also include sections on outreach to make other agencies and jurisdictions aware of the availability of DREs and challenges and how they were overcome. These two sections are not included in all case studies, as not all agencies put focused effort on outreach or face challenges in sharing DRE resources.

Colorado

The DRE/SFST State coordinator from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) provided information about the Colorado State DRE Callout Program.

DRE Program Background

CDOT implemented a DRE callout policy in 2018, although officers were trained as DREs before that date. Colorado is one of three States, along with Arizona and California, to be the first to have a pilot DRE programs.

Although the exact numbers of DREs throughout the State is unknown, the Colorado State Patrol has more DREs than any other Colorado agency, employing approximately 40% of the State's DREs. DREs are becoming more widespread throughout the State and it is not considered a callout if the DRE is already on duty. Thus, the current estimate of callouts is approximately 80 to 100 times per year. The simple nature of the program is part of what Colorado credits for its success.

Policies and Procedures

The process for calling out a DRE in Colorado is not formal, but it happens in a consistent manner and depends on strong communication. If a State trooper needs a DRE, the first step is to contact the DRE in the trooper's region, assuming that the DRE is on duty. If there is a DRE within the region, but who is not on duty, the department uses a callout rotation, wherein DREs are required to respond off duty and are on call via a predetermined rotation. If the trooper's region does not have a DRE on staff, the trooper contacts dispatch at the Colorado Crime Information Center. Dispatch then gives the officer a roster of all available DREs in the area. There are no special technologies used for the callout process, as it is all telephone-based.

When DREs graduate from DRE school, they each receive an official memorandum that is intended for the graduate's police chief. This memo formalizes the new DRE's role and informs the chief that this recruit is both available to the chief and to other agencies in the State. The document also explains that when another agency calls out the DRE, the other agency will compensate the DRE for their DRE's time. The State coordinators provide their direct contact information to keep the lines of communication open between them and the departments.

Funding

Colorado uses funds from the State Highway Safety Office to support DRE officer overtime. The State Patrol receives a general grant. The agency that needed a DRE is responsible for reimbursing the DRE and the DRE's department. The larger departments each house a \$25,000 grant for callouts that is set aside and funds the compensation. Instead of filing individual claims, the departments will write a purchase order and send it to the requesting agency.

Outreach

Officers learn of the DRE program and its benefits through word-of-mouth. Additional outreach efforts include listening tours hosted by CDOT that provide a platform for agencies to describe their needs. These listening tours have grown as the callout program became more prevalent in the State, and the feedback from agencies is overwhelmingly positive.

Challenges

One challenge faced by Colorado has been finding instructors to teach new DRE recruits. This is overcome by offering each instructor a stipend for the time spent teaching each course. Because of this compensation, 40% of all the DREs in the State now have instructor credentials, which gives new DREs a resource in the field.

Lessons Learned/Successes

One take-away from Colorado's approach to the DRE callout is that the DRE State coordinator must advocate and raise awareness of the callout program. It is also important to know where in the State are agencies that are unaware of the program. The State coordinator then educates this uninformed population with what callouts can offer and how it can be paid for.

Flagler County, Florida

The Flagler County Sheriff's Office manages a callout program that involves three other counties and the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP).

DRE Program Background

There is currently only one DRE in Flagler County. There had previously been two others, but after they left the agency, the remaining DRE began looking into communicating with other nearby DREs and coordinating a DRE callout program with other local agencies in the same judicial circuit. As a result, DRE sharing now occurs among Flagler, Putnam, Volusia, and St. Johns counties, as well as Florida Highway Patrol DREs who work in the same region. There are 8 DREs available because of the coordination of the four counties, with Putnam County benefiting the most since it does not have any DREs of its own.

The DREs meet every 2 months for training and other coordination efforts. Recently, a State Trooper and 2 DREs from municipalities in the Jacksonville area attended the meeting. There is potential that the callout program will expand to include other localities.

The Flagler County DRE spearheads the training meetings, developing the agenda, and sending out the dates, times, and locations. These training meetings rotate through each of the four involved counties. Because the DRE program is universal and built on consistency and everyone

follows the same 12-step process, they do not worry about inconsistencies between agencies. Rather, these training sessions serve to share useful and relevant information.

Policies and Procedures

Callouts are made through a group text message sent to all DREs from the four counties and FHP. The Flagler County DRE maintains the group and is willing to add any other DREs from other agencies that are interested. There is no specific app or software used for this process as it is all done via text messaging on cell phones.

If a DRE from one of the four counties or FHP is unavailable when needed, an officer or deputy can send a text to the group to see if anyone is available. Responses are sent to the group so that all can see when someone responds.

Florida may soon test a statewide process where a jail sends out the call for a DRE when one is needed.

The four counties involved have mutual aid agreements in place for law enforcement services, but the agreements are not specific to the DRE program.

Funding

Each agency pays for its own DREs, even when they are responding to calls from other agencies. However, there is a callout reimbursement grant funded by the IPTM, which will reimburse up to a certain number of callouts. The IPTM is in Jacksonville, and it coordinates all DRE efforts in Florida.

Lessons Learned/Successes

The biggest success with this callout program has been the availability of other DREs to respond to calls in Flagler County when its one DRE is not available. Prior to the implementation of the callout program, there would not be anyone who could respond when the DRE was out-of-town or otherwise unavailable.

Peachtree City, Georgia

The Peachtree City Police Department spearheads the DRE coordination between agencies in Fayette County (where Peachtree City is located) and neighboring Coweta County.

DRE Program Background

The Peachtree City Police Department is a 65-person agency, with 5 active certified DREs. Two additional officers were sent to DRE training in 2021. Peachtree City has had DREs intermittently within the department for 20 years, but the current generation of DREs began in 2008.

While Peachtree City has always been open to sharing their DREs with other agencies, until 2019 it was sporadic and without any type of process. Since 2019 it has become more effective in sharing DRE resources using group texting. While it does not have a formal process for callouts and sharing resources, Peachtree City believes the program is effective because it is informal and flexible.

Policies and Procedures

There group messaging app is used for callouts and there are currently 14 active DREs from eight agencies in Fayette and Coweta counties in the group. Each agency has a primary DRE point of contact who first identifies if an in-house DRE is available before using the group text. If an in-house DRE is not available, then the agency DRE point-of-contact will send a request for a DRE through the app. Since the implementation of group texting, DREs have been available to respond when needed the majority of the time and the program has been a large success.

While Peachtree City does have a policy on the use of DRE's in general, the group text app is used more as an informal means of communication and is not specifically indoctrinated into policy as a call out system.

Funding

Each agency involved pays for its own personnel's time. There is no interagency funding and each department finances its mutual aid. The goal of the program between Fayette and Coweta Counties is to keep everything simple. In Peachtree City overtime is approved for DREs if needed, although some agencies may not allow overtime.

Challenges

One challenge is that officers will use the group messaging app for informal chatting beyond just a callout request. These discussions can be subject to discovery. This has not been a problem for Peachtree City as it set ground rules, such as no joking or unrelated discussions. However, it is recommended that law enforcement agencies talk with the States Attorney's Office before using messaging applications to determine if the texts are open to discovery during trial.

Lessons Learned/Successes

In Peachtree City the DRE coordinator recognized that a DRE callout program does not have to be elaborate. It is possible to keep it simple without special funding, hundreds of people, or special operating agreements.

One successful result of Peachtree City's callout program is that the participating agencies have seen significant increases in the availability of DREs.

As a benefit of DRE resource-sharing, doing so helps maintain certification for DREs who work for support agencies and who are not in an enforcement role. For example, in Fayette County the prosecuting investigator is a DRE. The callouts help maintain that certification.

New Jersey

The New Jersey State Police (NJSP) DRE coordinator provided information about the State Police DRE callout program and the Northfield Police Department DRE coordinator provided information about how a callout program involving two counties works.

DRE Program Background

The NJSP DRE program began in 2019. As of April 2021 there are 120 DREs in the NJSP and 390 DREs in local municipalities. The NJSP maintains its own callout program and 12 of the 21 county agencies have callout programs as well, with 6 additional counties in the process of setting up callouts. The legalization of cannabis in New Jersey in March 2021 put the need for DRE callouts at the forefront.

The NJSP currently maintains its own callout list, while the municipal agencies maintain their own lists because funding to pay for DRE callouts cannot be shared between NJSP and municipal agencies. However, counties can request an NJSP DRE if they are unable to find municipal DREs, but the cost for the DRE in this case still comes out of State Police funds.

The Northfield Police Department is located in Atlantic County. In 2010 the Atlantic County Office of Highway Safety created a local callout program in Cape May and Atlantic Counties, making DREs available outside their own agencies. This program involves 31 agencies, with 22 of them having at least one DRE and some of the larger departments having 5 or 6 DREs. Prior to implementation of this program, when a request for a DRE was made dispatchers often did not know if there was one available either within the agency or from a nearby county. They also did not know how to get the message out to other agencies that a DRE was needed.

Policies and Procedures

The NJSP Regional Operations & Intelligence Center (ROIC) is the central organization that handles requests for DREs for State Troopers. When a State Trooper needs a DRE, the trooper calls the ROIC and then the dispatcher pushes a text out to all troopers in all regions requesting an available DRE. Troopers receive the request on their phones and then click on a link to read the full request. In the event that an NJSP DRE is unavailable, the ROIC can also send a request to municipal agencies, but these agencies are not included in the initial callout request. Municipal law enforcement agencies may call the ROIC to look for an available NJSP DRE, if no municipal DREs are available. The first officer to respond to the ROIC text gets the call. That officer must notify the chain of command via text when responding to a callout.

The ROIC maintains a spreadsheet of all DRE callout requests for NJSP DREs. This spreadsheet is also used to request and track payment for callouts.

In Cape May and Atlantic counties, municipal officers' requests for DREs are sent through a group-texting app. When dispatch gets a call for a DRE, it can send the request through the app and the first available DRE to respond will take the call. Initially, the Northfield Police Department DRE coordinator developed an email list for all DREs in Cape May and Atlantic Counties, converted the list to SMS, and used it to send texts to everyone in the group.

Other New Jersey county DRE programs use apps or text messaging for callouts. The key is that there is a partnership with the 911 dispatch or another entity, enabling them to send out texts or other notifications to the DREs in the area.

The NJSP maintains standard operating procedures for DREs. When DREs graduate from DRE school, they fill out forms for the DRE Overtime Call Out list and check off which regions they are willing to go to for callouts. There are three regions in the NJSP.

In Cape May and Atlantic counties there is a policy that establishes the procedures to seek DREs and identifies what paperwork is necessary for the DREs to get grant funding the callouts. This policy is signed by the police chiefs from both counties.

Funding

The NJSP uses funds provided through Federal grants to fund its callout program. DREs get 4 to 6 hours of pay for each callout, depending on the job, paid at time-and-a-half for their pay scale. This occasionally includes time for attending court as well.

County DRE coordinators track requests for municipal callout programs. For most municipal programs requests for reimbursement are sent by the DRE department to the county treasurer for the county in which the requesting department is located. The DRE report must accompany the payment request. The DRE's department is reimbursed, and then the department pays the DRE. For example, in Cape May and Atlantic Counties, an invoice is sent to the Office of Highway Safety in Atlantic County. It cuts a check and sends it to the requesting agency.

County DRE coordinators also typically receive stipends for their work, as there is a large amount of work involved in the County coordinator role.

Outreach

Cape May and Atlantic Counties have an annual in-service meeting where the DRE coordinator discusses what DRE resources are available to the agencies in the counties. It is recommended that agencies educate about DREs from the bottom up, as it often does not get filtered down from the top.

Challenges

For the NJSP, one challenge is to ensure that DREs respond to callouts. Response rates for DREs from outside the requesting jurisdiction is low. NJSP believes that recognizing DRE efforts helps encourage responses to callouts.

In Cape May and Atlantic Counties, one challenge has been getting Cape May County on board because the program is run by Atlantic County. Often police chiefs do not understand what is being asked of their departments when it comes to callouts. There are still some agencies that call DREs directly and dispatch centers may not be educated on the proper callout procedures. Coordination between DREs and chiefs helps promote successful callout programs.

Lessons Learned/Successes

There are some DREs who do 60 to 100 evaluations per year. DREs are often credited with saving lives. Occasionally a driver who was initially thought to be impaired may be found through DRE evaluation to be having a medical issue, such as a diabetic emergency or stroke.

North Carolina

The current North Carolina DEC program State coordinator and the previous coordinator contributed information about the statewide program for sharing DRE resources.

DRE Program Background

The North Carolina DEC program began in 2000, although DRE resource-sharing began as early as the 1990s. Some 68 agencies and 166 DREs are involved in the resource-sharing. However, every agency statewide and 186 breath-testing test sites have access to communication regarding availability of DREs.

The program's inception came about after the realization that resource-sharing took place via word-of-mouth. However, this created clusters of sharing, and rural counties that were not aware of these resources did not benefit from the sharing. Thus, the program's priority has been creating these points of contact, noting that it only takes one DRE officer to go out and make a connection.

Policies and Procedures

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) operates the call center that dispatches DREs. If a State Trooper administers a breath test with a result of 0 to a driver he suspects is under the influence, he contacts the call center by calling the 800 number located directly on the breathalyzer instrument. The phone number is also posted on signs in the 186 statewide test sites. This phone call connects the officer in need to the WRC dispatch, who then uses the DEC system to send out a notification to all DRE officers within a certain radius and asks them if they can respond.

The North Carolina DEC callout system uses a management system that permits DREs to identify their preferred mode of communication. When a DRE is needed, the dispatcher enters the address of the incident and geolocates all available DREs within a 50-mile radius, a distance that allows an officer to be at the scene in an hour or less. This notification also returns a notice of receipt by the DRE being contacted, which allows agencies to understand the response rate of different DREs.

Additionally, the online nature of the data collected allows the State coordinator to run a report to understand the needs, and thus the gaps, of different areas of the State. If an area shows a need for a DRE, the State coordinator contacts that agency to find a new DRE candidate.

There is no official policy for callouts. However, DREs understand they are not getting overtime compensation. If there is enough manpower to support the system, the DREs understand that callouts are a type of mutual support between officers.

DREs do not always have to show up to the scene. State Troopers can speak to the DREs over the phone and receive the guidance they need remotely and immediately.

Funding

The Governors Highway Safety Association supports the costs of the DRE management system. At this time, officers do not receive overtime compensation for DRE callouts.

Challenges

The earliest challenge for the North Carolina DRE callout program was dispatch. While the affiliation with the WRC and the use of management system software has eased the dispatch challenge, logistics is an ongoing challenge. Fortunately, North Carolina coordinated with its

software vendor while creating the program to ease dispatch burdens to ensure that the logistical challenges are reduced.

Lessons Learned/Successes

The cooperation between the dispatch at the WRC and the North Carolina DEC program is mutually beneficial. The WRC has started to implement checkpoints within National Parks that use the DREs, therefore keeping the parks safe. This cooperative was formed at a DRE conference where both parties attended. This demonstrates the importance of advocating for DRE callout programs through networking and searching for different stakeholders and partners from different areas of the State.

Ohio

The Ohio DEC program State coordinator from the Ohio State Highway Patrol provided information about DRE callouts in Ohio.

DRE Program Background

Ohio DREs support the entire State with an extensive network using the State notification system maintained by the Ohio State Highway Patrol (OSHP) and other localized systems. When an impaired driver is arrested and the arresting officer needs additional assistance, a DRE officer is available to respond. The DRE callout program is a multi-agency program in which OSHP has a large presence. The State is divided into 9 regions and there are 6 regional DRE coordinators.

Ohio's DRE program began in 2011 and it has become one of the larger DRE programs in the country. As of the end of fiscal 2020 there were 203 DREs in 89 different Ohio agencies. In 2019 Ohio DREs responded to 493 calls for service. These calls were part of the support the Ohio DEC program provides to many law enforcement partners across the State.

The Ohio DRE callout program began in 2013 and 2014, but initially did not have a definitive purpose or procedures. In 2017 it began referring to the program as "post-arrest support" and gave the program structure and purpose, with directives on how it is to be used, when it will be used, and how to advertise the program. Key to these directives is the collection of data related to the program. Software was developed for tablets allowing DREs to track the number of callouts. This information is then used to identify where callouts are taking place and determine if certain agencies need more DREs or more ARIDE² classes available.

² The Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) is a 16-hour training course taught by DRE instructors and was developed by NHTSA with input from the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), Technical Advisory Panel (TAP), and the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police. ARIDE was "created to address the gap in training between the Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) and the Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC/DRE) Program. The SFST program trains officers to identify and assess drivers suspected of being under the influence of alcohol, while the DEC/DRE program provides more advanced training to evaluate suspected drug impairment. The SFST assessment is typically employed at roadside, while an officer trained as a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) through the DEC program conducts a 12-step evaluation in a more controlled environment such as a jail or a detention facility." See www.in.gov/cji/traffic-safety/impaired-driving/advanced-roadside-impaired-driving-enforcement/

Policies and Procedures

The most important part of a DRE callout program is having a central place for people to call or text to request a DRE. It is also important to conduct training on using the system for both officers and dispatchers.

When an officer who is not a DRE makes a drug-impaired-driving arrest, the officer can call or have the dispatcher call the OSHP intelligence hub. Most officers are already familiar with the phone number, as there are intelligence analysts available at the hub “24/7.” The dispatcher at the hub uses an Ohio-web-based system to select the region where the DRE is needed, types a message (a model message can be used), and sends the message to the selected region. The State coordinator also gets a copy of all messages. The responding DRE then calls the hub, and the hub gives the DRE the specifics such as requesting agency, officer’s name, and phone number. If no DRE responds within 10 minutes of the request, the hub calls the regional coordinator and the regional coordinator will respond to the request. If the regional coordinator is not available, it goes to the State coordinator.

The Ohio Department of Public Safety initially developed a notification system as part of an emergency response plan to notify State agency department heads about important events and occurrences within the State. The State DRE coordinator realized that the system would work well for DRE callouts and asked if non-State employees could also be included in the system. DPS was amenable to the idea and added contact information for all DREs, broken up into regions.

DREs are not required to respond to callouts. Some agencies do not have as much funding available as others and are unable to send DREs out and pay them overtime. In some cases an agency may have an agreement with DREs that they can take comp time rather than overtime pay when they respond to callouts. Other agencies allow DREs to do as many evaluations as they can and bill to overtime accordingly.

Funding

Grant funding is used to pay the regional coordinators for work they do outside the scope of their agency (i.e., responding to callout requests). However, individual departments are responsible for their own DRE overtime costs.

Outreach

Advertising the callout program is important. The State coordinator is viewed as the proponent of the Ohio DRE program. To grow the program, the coordinator must have accurate data on the work being done to show the need for DREs and the callout program. This data comes from tracking software used by all Ohio DREs. OSHP is using this data to develop a dashboard with metrics on the work that DREs do and to help identify where more DREs are needed. The State coordinator also uses this data to develop an annual report separate from the report that is submitted to the IACP. This report is shared with a network of law enforcement liaisons in Ohio that promote traffic safety.

It is also important that DREs make other law enforcement aware of their services. DREs are encouraged to make business cards and hand them out to other agencies so that people know they are there and available and they can be contacted directly.

Challenges

In the beginning one of the challenges was that people thought that DREs were there to provide a service to take over an arrest when there was a drug-impaired driver. Therefore, the callout program was rebranded as “post-arrest support” and DRE services were better defined. They also did not do a good job in the beginning of tracking callouts, but once they implemented a tracking system it became easier to reward good work and sell the benefits of the callout program.

Lessons Learned/Successes

The State and regional coordinators use the information that the DREs input to Ohio’s tracking system and recognize their hard work based on this data. The data is used to create additional training opportunities for DREs to advance their education and training. This approach helps incentivize the DREs to track what they are doing.

Oklahoma

Oklahoma’s DEC Program State coordinator from the Oklahoma City Police Department and the previous State coordinator provided information about Oklahoma’s DRE callout program.

DRE Program Background

The Oklahoma DRE callout program began in 1991 and currently there are 174 DREs. Since 2018 the State has focused on ensuring DREs are recertified as needed to maintain the numbers. The Oklahoma DRE callout program includes 50 different agencies.

Policies and Procedures

When a DRE is needed, the officer contacts Oklahoma Highway Patrol Dispatch, which will try to locate an available DRE. If unable to find a DRE, dispatch will then call the State coordinator directly, who will try to locate a DRE.

DREs are not expected to travel more than 50 miles from their primary locations. However, often State Troopers are the only DREs in rural areas of the State. Therefore, they are expected to cover and assist smaller agencies in those rural areas.

There are no specific technologies used, as callouts are based on dispatch calling DREs to see if they are available. However, Oklahoma Highway Patrol is currently developing an on-call system using its dispatch system. This would allow DRE officers to input their cell phone numbers and email addresses. The dispatch system would then text/email a particular set of DRE officers based on the area in need.

Oklahoma does not have a formal callout policy, but the application for DRE school includes a statement that must be signed by the department head stating that agreement to allow the DRE to be called out to assist officers and to provide assistance to surrounding agencies when requested, unless it places an unreasonable financial burden on the department to do so.

Funding

Each involved department budgets funds for the DRE callout program. The program is currently working on a funding line item to pay for overtime. The Oklahoma City Police Department is the largest department in the State and houses the grant from the Oklahoma Highway Safety Office. This is sometimes used to compensate the overtime from other departments when needed, but most departments are willing to pay the overtime.

Outreach

The DEC State coordinator and the 6 regional coordinators meet annually to ensure that the same message is being spread across the State regarding the availability of DREs. The program uses a three-pronged approach to raise awareness, targeting their message to officers, departments, and the general public.

The current State coordinator took over the DRE callout program in 2018, and one of the priorities was raising awareness of the DRE callout program to other agencies and officers. To implement this, the coordinator attends the quarterly meetings of local police departments, and reaches out to new police chiefs annually. Additionally, the program includes raising awareness with, and ultimately training, the Tribal police departments. Young DREs often speak at high schools and conferences to raise public awareness of the DRE program.

Challenges

The biggest challenge has been funding. The program hired a consulting group to identify different funding streams. A dedicated source of funds would alleviate this problem.

Lessons Learned/Successes

Recent lessons learned are the need to use technology to bring the DRE callout program into the 21st century. This includes technology for initiating and tracking callout requests.

Oregon

The Oregon DEC Program State coordinator provided information about the DRE sharing program in Oregon.

DRE Program Background

The Oregon DRE callout program began in 1995. There are currently 189 DREs from 61 agencies who participate in callouts. Additional coverage takes place at the Port Authority of Portland, where DREs are used to patrol roads used by drivers transporting departing and arriving passengers. Although rare, the Port Authority's DREs are also available to be on call for commercial airline pilots who may be under the influence.

Policies and Procedures

The trigger for calling out a DRE officer in Oregon is either a State Trooper believing a driver is under the influence of a substance with a breathalyzer reading below .08 g/dL or a fatal crash, with a DRE officer being always staffed on the fatal crash teams. All breathalyzer devices have laminated pieces of paper on them with the DRE callout phone number. This number is also located on crash report forms. This number connects the officer to regional dispatch centers,

which then send out a request for a DRE through software from Everbridge, Inc. (www.everbridge.com).³

Pagers were initially used to contact DREs. As the program grew from 25 DREs up to 210 DREs, there was a need for better communication. The evolution of the program progressed to a dispatch center, and eventually to the technology still in use today, a software management system.

Oregon's system stores information for DREs including their cell phone numbers and how far they are willing to travel. When an officer needs a DRE, after contacting dispatch the management system distributes a text message to the DREs who can respond.

Oregon's system records all DRE callouts and the State coordinator maintains a spreadsheet that houses data about the program. This data includes the number of requests, the positive responses, the percentage of positive responses per DRE, the county, the day of the week, and the time of day. This information lets the State coordinator look at trends in the program and understand if recruiting needs to take place for underrepresented areas.

There is no formal callout policy. However, whenever an officer applies for DRE school, part of Oregon DECP's application process is gaining signed approval from the applicant's agency head or command. That signature acknowledges the time commitment and authorizes the DRE to assist other agencies as needed.

Funding

The Oregon DRE callout program is funded by a grant through the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). Every DRE who is certified can use this grant to apply for overtime costs, if the officer incurred overtime when called out. This strong working relationship with ODOT helps ensure a high response rate to callouts.

Outreach

Oregon values the need to raise awareness of the callout program with agencies and jurisdictions. The State coordinator regularly conducts DRE callout webinars that both inform and raise awareness of Oregon's DRE sharing program. Information about the program is regularly shared through the Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police, sheriffs' association, a listserv for prosecutors, DRE forums, conferences with chiefs and sheriffs in attendance, the ODOT transportation safety division, and traffic safety conferences. The coordinator typically shares the data from Everbridge software, allowing police chiefs to understand the trends in their areas.

Challenges

The two primary challenges in Oregon are funding and data. Data is problematic because it is often outdated or redundant.

Additional challenges to overcome in Oregon are new laws and legislation. Additionally, new case law in Oregon states when a people invoke Miranda rights, the officers are not allowed to perform sobriety tests.

³ Everbridge, Inc., a global software company has headquarters in Boston and Los Angeles.

Lessons Learned/Successes

The Oregon DRE callout program has received overwhelmingly positive feedback from different areas of the State, such as the judicial system and the education system. Juries can now receive information about crimes from credible experts, information that may not have existed in the past before DREs. Teachers are taught how to use cues similar to those understood by DRE officers to identify students who may be under the influence and prompt early intervention.

Summary: Tips and Recommendations for Implementing DRE Resource-Sharing

DREs are an important asset to law enforcement, especially with the rise in DUID cases. However, becoming a certified DRE requires time and resources. As a result, some agencies may not have the manpower available to send officers to DRE training, removing them from the street for long periods of time. Therefore, sharing DRE resources between agencies within local jurisdictions or statewide is an important component to maximizing the benefits of DREs.

The purpose of this report has been to provide successful strategies and practices for sharing DRE resources across agencies with the goal of initiating DRE resource-sharing or enhancing current resource-sharing procedures. As stated throughout this report DRE resource-sharing does not have to be a complex or formalized process and can occur on a smaller scale with a few agencies involved to a larger statewide scale. Having a champion for DRE sharing and ensuring that nearby agencies or all agencies in a State are aware of the availability of DREs across agencies are perhaps the most important components of successfully sharing DRE resources. However, the following summary of the key points from this report illustrate other useful tips to consider based on the needs of the agencies involved.

Stakeholders and Obtaining Buy-In

- Someone must serve as the champion and spearhead the resource-sharing effort. Success starts at the top with the DRE State coordinator or regional coordinator, making sure everyone is on the same page.
- Identify all stakeholders who will be involved with resource-sharing early in the planning stages so that all needs and concerns can be addressed prior to implementation of resource-sharing. These stakeholders may include the DRE State coordinator, the State Police or Highway Patrol, the State Highway Safety Office, chiefs, or sheriffs from the agencies that will be involved, dispatch, emergency operations centers, States attorney's office, traffic safety resource prosecutors, and others.
- A specific agency involved with the resource-sharing must be tasked with administration and maintenance of any technology used for callouts.
- Track how many calls are going out, where the calls are, and what service was provided. If data is available to show that there is a need for the program and shows its benefits, agencies will be more likely to participate. Be transparent about the program's data and statistics.

Building and Maintaining Awareness

- Advocate for and raise awareness of the availability of DRE resource-sharing, especially through all levels of the agency. DRE State coordinators often give presentations about resource-sharing efforts at various meetings, such as State police chiefs and sheriffs meetings and then these agency officials can filter it down to their officers.
- Encourage and facilitate communication among the involved agencies.
- Have data available to show the benefits of resource-sharing.

Policies and Procedures

- DRE resource-sharing does not have to be complex. It is possible to keep it simple without special funding, hundreds of involved people, or special operating agreements. The simpler the better.
- A formal policy for resource-sharing is not necessary. In some States, agency leadership signs a memorandum of understanding for their DREs indicating that DREs are to be made available to assist other agencies when needed. In other cases, mutual aid agreements between participating agencies govern DRE sharing. There are also many agencies that do not have any type of agreement and simply indicate by word of mouth that their DREs are available to assist other agencies.
- Implement standard, systematic operating procedures for resource-sharing and callouts. Agencies should not have to go looking around and making a lot of phone calls to figure out how to get a DRE. However, the procedures should meet your State's or agency's needs, there is no one size fits all approach.
- Designate an on-call rank structure. For example, there may be an overall program coordinator and regional coordinators, as they do in Ohio, so that someone is always available to respond.
- Set an area or boundary for agencies involved in resource-sharing so that when a DRE is needed, they can easily get to the requesting location. Include an entire judicial circuit in the callout program when possible. This will be especially helpful to agencies that have no or few DREs.
- Provide DREs with the option of how they would like to be notified. Also allow officers to set quiet hours.
- Define what constitutes a response. Are DREs always required to show up on scene or can they respond by calling the requesting officer and providing guidance?
- Aim for 100% response for callouts. If an officer calls for the first time and does not receive a response, they likely will not call again.
- Weed out DREs who are not participating in the callout program.

Tools and Technologies

- DRE resource-sharing does not require expensive tools or technologies.
- Technologies typically used range from phone calls and simple group text messages or aps to management software to send requests for a DRE.

Costs, Funding, and Officer Compensation

- Make it easy for all agencies involved to get reimbursed for callouts.
- Allow the involved agencies to write purchase orders to receive compensation through a grant as opposed to individual claims. This gives the departments a sense of value in the process.
- Use an overall pot of funding to pay for callouts. If the State allows it and it can be funded and tracked, an overall pot of funding that can be used by all involved agencies will likely create more buy-in to the callout program.

- Give DREs the time necessary to do their reports, court, and paperwork even outside of the overtime allocated for callouts.

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Appendix A: Research Approach

The researchers gathered the information for this report by conducting an online search, requesting information through the IACP DRE forum and the DRE Facebook group, and interviewing selected DRE coordinators to learn more about their DRE callout programs. Because very little information is available online about DRE resource-sharing, the majority of information in this report is not cited as it came from emails and phone discussions with DREs. Information from 9 different States was selected through this process.

Three methods were used to gather the initial information for this project:

- Online searches,
- Requesting information through the IACPDRE Community Forum; and
- Requesting information through the Drug Recognition Expert Facebook Group (www.facebook.com/groups/DrugRecognitionExpert/), a private and restricted Facebook site.

Online Searches

The research team searched Google, Google Scholar, the IACP web site, and State DRE web sites, primarily using the following search terms.

- Drug recognition expert
- Drug recognition evaluator
- DRE
- Drug Evaluation and Classification Program
- Drug-impaired driving prevention
- two spellings of DRE callout and call out
- DRE sharing
- DRE resource-sharing

While numerous references were found regarding the DRE program and DRE process, very few mentioned anything regarding the sharing of DREs or DRE callouts between agencies. As a result, the research team documented only 14 relevant documents from the literature search, shown in Table 1. However, some of these documents, such as the 2019 Drug Evaluation and Classification (DECP) Annual Report and sources such as a September 2020 IACP webinar on DRE call outs, provided extremely useful information for this project.

Table 1. Sources Identified From Literature Search

Source Title	URL (if available online)	Author	Date
The Drug Recognition Expert Officer: Signs of Drug Impairment at Roadside	www.safetylit.org/citations/index.php?fuseaction=citations.view_details&citationIds%5b%5d=citjournalarticle_247227_38	Page, T. E.	2002
Drug-Impaired Driving a Guide for States	https://trid.trb.org/View/1465608	Hedlund, James	2017
Enforcing Driving Under the Influence of Drugs Laws with the Drug Evaluation and Classification Program	www.safetylit.org/citations/index.php?fuseaction=citations.view_details&citationIds%5b%5d=citjournalarticle_310139_38	Compton, Richard P.	2005

Source Title	URL (if available online)	Author	Date
Drug Evaluation and Classification: Review of the Program and Opportunities for Enhancement	https://trid.trb.org/view/1607210	Beirness, Douglas J., and Porath, Amy J.	2019
Call in the Experts: The Drug Recognition Expert Protocol and Its Role in Effectively Prosecuting Drugged Drivers	www.heinonline.org/HOL/Page?handle=hein.journals/wjpl26&id=241&div=&collection=	Seiders, Gregory T.	2017
The drug recognition expert response	https://trid.trb.org/view/1203108	Page, T. E.	1995
LAPD DRE Overview Website	www.lapdonline.org/special_operations_support_division/content_basic_view/1036		
Drug recognition experts will play a big role in detecting drivers who are high come Jan. 1, police say	www.chicagotribune.com/suburb/aurora-beacon-news/ct-abn-aurora-drug-recognition-experts-st-1229-20191227-lq34jr6nh6hhlmy5nyd7hdm-story.html	Jones, Megan	2019
Montgomery County FC No: 515 – Traffic Offenses Involving Alcohol/Drugs	www.montgomerycountymd.gov/POL/Resources/Files/PDF/Directives/500/FC515_Traffic%20Ofenses%20Involving%20Drugs_2018_ah.pdf	n/a	2018
Drug Recognition Expert Request	https://publichealth.nc.gov/chronicdiseaseandinjury/fta/pdf/DrugRecognitionExpertCallOut.pdf	n/a	Not dated
Priorities and Strategies for Improving the Investigation, Use of Toxicology Results, and Prosecution of Drug-Impaired Driving Cases	https://one.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/research/PrioritiesStarteg/pages/Issue1b.html	NHTSA	2004
The Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC) Program: Saving Lives and Preventing Crashes	https://ndaa.org/wp-content/uploads/1033558_DRE_Monograph_FinalWEB.pdf	Talpins, S., Hayes C., and Kimball, T.	2018
2019 DECP Annual Report	www.theiacp.org/sites/default/files/2020-04/2019%20DECP%20Annual%20Report.pdf	IACP	2019
DRE Call Out Programs Webinar (focuses on NJ, OH, and OR)	must be a member of the IACP DRE Community to view	IACP	2020

IACP DRE Community Forum and DRE Facebook Group

Requests for information sent to the IACP DRE Community Forum and the DRE Facebook group yielded responses from 22 agencies. These agencies included police departments, sheriff's offices, State police and highway patrol, a Canadian agency, an airport police department, and a

fish-and-wildlife law enforcement agency. Three respondents provided copies of their DRE policies and standard operating procedures.

Interviews With DRE Coordinators

Based on the findings from the web search and information gathered through the DRE Facebook group and IACP DRE Forum, the researchers identified eight locations for further study. The eight locations were selected based on their methods for sharing DREs, geographic location, and type of agency (State Police, local police, local sheriff, etc.) with the goal of gathering diverse information so that this report can be used by different types and sizes of agencies, with varying budgets and availability of DREs. These eight locations are listed in Table 2 and the findings are described in the Case Studies section of this report.

Table 2. Agencies Selected for Further Study

Agency	State
Colorado Department of Transportation	Colorado
Flagler County Sheriff’s Office	Florida
Peachtree City Police Department	Georgia
New Jersey State Police and Northfield Police Department	New Jersey
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Forensic Tests for Alcohol Branch	North Carolina
Ohio State Highway Patrol	Ohio
Oklahoma City Police Department (representing OK State program)	Oklahoma
Oregon State Police	Oregon

The research team contacted each agency point of contact to schedule a telephone interview. The contacts were given the option to respond to questions via email if they preferred, but all chose to discuss their programs by phone. Prior to each phone call, the researchers emailed the contact the list of questions that would be asked so that they could prepare in advance. During each call, the researchers asked additional questions as needed in order to gather the most comprehensive information about each DRE callout program.

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