

CASE Newsletter

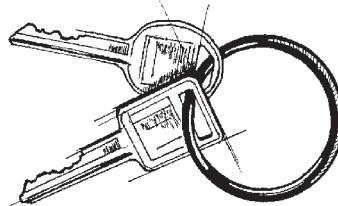
California Association for Safety Education Volume XXVI, No. 3 - Sept. 2015

ADTSEA and California Efforts on Novice Driver Licensing

By Jerry Gaines, Past CASE President & ADTSEA Board Member

Recent engagement (representing CASE) with the American Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association (ADTSEA) at their annual conference in Raleigh, North Carolina and participation in the new California Strategic Highway Safety Plan indicate that there is much growing interest in addressing the status of current novice driver licensing programs. The mixed efforts by states and local agencies and interested stakeholders have the attention of traffic safety leaders.

ADTSEA conference activities highlighted the efforts being made by the Association of National Stakeholders in Traffic Safety Education (ANSTSE) to visit by invitation state traffic safety leaders to offer no cost technical support for state traffic safety programs. Their baseline of support is defined by the National Highway Traffic Safety Association's (NHTSA) adopted Novice Teen Driver Education and Training Administrative Standards (NTDETAS). Five states have experienced this technical support and are reviewing their current programs.



The newly adopted California Strategic Highway Safety Plan is implementing a new focus on reducing death and injury to youthful drivers. CASE members Larry Woodruff and I sit on the newly organized task force which includes representatives from various state agencies such as the Department of Education, OTS, CHP, and Caltrans. This task force has created five key strategies:

1. Increase awareness of and compliance with graduated license laws.
2. Promote social norming and behavior change on youth-related traffic safety issues.
3. Promote the use of evidence-based programs and outreach methods.
4. Improve school policies and procedures relating to young driver safety.
5. Improve enforcement and adjudication of young offenders.

The strategies call for action, resources, timing, and performance measures for each of them. The intent is to see a degree of success for each strategy within a time period of some five years.

Efforts, both nationally, and by states such as California are addressing the number one health issue (death and injury on the highway) for those youth in their teen years. Traffic Safety advocates from both the private and public sector need to collaborate in their efforts in support of these initiatives.

Pending Legislation

AB 235 (D-Frazier)—Existing law, the Brady-Jared Teen Driver Safety Act of 1997, provides for the issuance of a driver's license to an applicant who is at least 16 years of age but under 18 years of age pursuant to the provisional licensing program. Under existing law, a person licensed under this program is prohibited, during the first 12 months after issuance of a provisional license, from driving during the hours of 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. or from transporting passengers who are under 20 years of age, subject to specified exceptions.

This bill would prohibit a person with a provisional license, from engaging in those prohibited activities until the provisional period ends when the person reaches 18 years of age. *Status: In Senate Appropriations Committee.*

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 69

(Gagliani)—This measure would request the Department of Motor Vehicles to conduct a study regarding the possible effects of reducing the minimum age for applying for an instruction permit to drive a motor vehicle from 15 years and 6 months of age to 15 years of age. *Status: Referred to RLS (Rules) Committee.*

AB 1024 (Gaines-R)—This bill would require driving school operators who are first licensed on or after July 1, 2016, and who offer no behind-the-wheel driver training, to successfully complete a 60-hour educational program acceptable to the department with specified content, including operator responsibilities and current laws, instead of meeting the requirement of having worked as a driving instructor for a specified number of hours. *Status: In Senate Appropriations Committee.*

To view the full text of bills in the California Legislature, along with the current status of each bill, visit www.legislature.ca.gov and select *Bill Information*.

Back-to-School Traffic Safety: Sacramento's Safetyville USA Hosts Teen Safe Driving Day

By Safety Center Staff

On September 12, 2015, the Safety Center and Teens in the Driver Seat are partnering to host a back-to-school Teen Safe Driving Day at Safetyville USA in Sacramento.

Teen drivers or teens learning to drive are invited to participate in this free event from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Learning activities focused on teen safe driving will be the centerpiece of this exciting event!

Among the agencies to join in this event will be Impact Teen Driving, www.impactteendrivers.org, and the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans), www.caltrans.ca.gov.

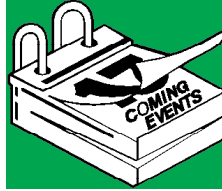
This informative and hands-on event will feature two presentations at 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. by Cinema Drive, however space will be limited for these presentations so please visit <http://safetycenter.org/events/teen-safe-driving-day> to reserve a seat.

- Other activities featured at the event include:
- Pedal karts driving course
- Driving Under the Influence (DUI) goggle course
- Sponsor and vendor tables with giveaways and activities
- Food stands and Raffle prizes

For more information on this exciting event, please contact the Safety Center by telephone at 800-825-7262, ext. 1250, or send an e-mail to info@safetycenter.org. Safetyville USA is located at 3909 Bradshaw Rd., Sacramento, CA 95287.

Funding for Teens in the Driver Seat is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Source: Safety Center, <http://safetycenter.org>



CASE Calendar

September 13-19, 2015 - Child Passenger Safety Week. Contact: www.safercar.gov

October 10, 2015 - 63rd Annual CASE Conference, Tracy, CA. Contact: www.casewebsite.org

October 19-25, 2015 - National Teen Driver Safety Week. Contact: www.teendriversource.org

December 2015 - National Drunk and Drugged Driver Prevention Month. Contact: www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp

December 18-January 3 - Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over. National Crackdown. Contact: www.nhtsa.gov/StopImpairedDriving

Caltrans Innovation Contest

You can win up to \$25,000 by entering the Caltrans State of California "\$25K Find a New Way" Innovation Award Contest. The award may be won for the best unique idea about how to improve the transportation system.

Submit your idea before 5:00 pm on October 13, 2015. Caltrans will announce the contest winner by December 31, 2015. For contest details, visit www.dot.ca.gov/InnovAward

New study shows rising use of cell phones while driving

The Office of Traffic Safety and the California Highway released a new study in July showing a 39 percent increase in the percentage of California drivers seen using a cell phone while driving.

The study was conducted by the Office of Traffic Safety and the University of California, Berkeley Safe Transportation Research and Education Center.

CASE Newsletter

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Alert to Retiring Teachers

If you are planning to retire this year, please let us know so we may honor you at the annual CASE conference in Ontario. Contact Bill Lee, Retired Members Representative, at (310) 831-6471.

Bill would like to remind all retired and retiring members that they are especially invited to join our activities at the conference.

63rd Annual CASE Traffic Safety Education Conference

Fairfield Inn by Marriott & Hampton Inn
2400-2410 Naglee Road, Tracy, CA

Saturday, October 10, 2015, 8:00 am - 7:00 pm

Join the **California Association for Safety Education** in the San Joaquin County city of Tracy for an information-packed traffic safety education conference! We are planning a stimulating and interesting program with presentations from top educators and experienced professionals in traffic safety education. Our goal is to assist you with new ideas and tools for engaging students in driver education.



- For driving school owners and instructors, participation at our professional conference sessions will serve as evidence of continuing professional education for license renewal. We provide a certificate of completion at the conclusion of our one-day conference.
- This year's conference promises to excite you! Our theme is "Driver Safety...Are we there yet?" Saturday morning will begin with a complimentary breakfast for hotel guests and conference registration. Then off we go to the nearby Altamont Speedway to join parents and students in a safety spin around the track with the "Get Real Behind the Wheel" driving program. In addition to the hands-on experience at the Speedway, we will be introduced to the new Chevrolet Spark. We are anticipating that this newsworthy event will include special guests from the DMV, CDE, and OTS. By lunchtime we should be enjoying our presenters delivering cutting-edge information in the following topic areas: **CHP, Caltrans, Amtrak, Seasonal Driving Techniques, Personal Safety, Impact Teen Drivers, New Curriculum, All About Tires, Understanding RV's and School Buses, Parent Testimony, and Student Testimony.**
- Register early for both the conference and hotel. Rooms have been saved for both Friday and Saturday, October 9 & 10 at the Fairfield Inn and the Hampton Inn in Tracy.

These facilities are located right next to each other, and both feature indoor swimming pools, work-out rooms, and a complimentary breakfast. These are very nice queen and king rooms priced from \$99 to \$129 (plus tax). Phone (209) 833-0135 for reservations at the Fairfield Inn or (209) 833-0483 for the Hampton Inn.. Stay the weekend and drive home refreshed on Sunday morning. BE SAFE and get a CASE conference discount with your early hotel reservation at either Inn.

- Great raffle prizes will abound! Receive 10 extra raffle tickets with your early conference registration.
- Conference Registration Fee: \$125 for CASE members or \$165 for non-CASE members. The \$165 fee includes a one-year CASE membership. Make checks payable to **CASE Conference**. Fee includes a catered BBQ lunch and a light dinner on Saturday. **Conference registration fee must be received by September 19, 2015 to qualify for the \$125 fee.** Registrations received after September 19 are \$165 (\$205 for non-members).

2015 CASE Conference Registration Form

Registration must be received no later than September 19, 2015

Mail check to: CASE Conference, 25 Shelbourne Place, San Mateo, CA 94402

Name: _____ School District/Business _____

Address: _____ Evening Phone () _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ E-mail: _____

Registration Fee Enclosed: \$ _____ CASE members: \$125 if received by September 19, 2015/ \$165 if received after September 19. **Non-members:** \$165 if received by September 19/\$205 if received after September 19. *The non-member fee includes a one-year CASE membership.*

School District Purchase Orders not accepted (if your school district is paying for registration, a district check must be sent with this registration form attached).

Curriculum resources to be shared at CASE Conference

By Bart Schwarz, CASE Vice President

I am really hoping to see you at the October conference in Tracy. As an attendee at my workshop, I would encourage you to bring any support materials that you might have or material that you have developed to share. Sometime back I had Bill Corliss put the word out for a 1987 video cassette, "Sentenced for Life". While it is older, it still is one of the better DUI videos in my experience. Bill found a friend who had the old VHS cassette and then took it to Costco and had it converted to a DVD. Most of the colleagues with whom I have shared it agree that it's a great resource.

In the next newsletter I plan to make a list of the audio visual resources that I have compiled. Some are still available through vendors such as the AAA. One of the better ones is "Toe Tag", which emphasizes distracting driving and physics. Another classic yet valuable DVD is from Disney Educational Productions "Driver Safety" featuring *Motor Mania* (road rage 1953) and *Freewayphobia* (freeway driving issues in multiple driving perspectives 1965). I actually still recall these timeless animated shows from my driver education class in 1974. Even today, the students really seem to be captivated by Disney's magic. Searching YouTube also has provided some good results for finding driver education videos.

I would like to see CASE and our members join me in a proactive effort to get vendors or manufacturers of automotive products to produce up-to-date resources for Driver Education. I am in the process of contacting some of our colleges/universities with film production classes to perhaps encourage their students to create and develop resources for us. To give you an idea, my most recent show was "Highway Confidential" which aired in 2013 on ABC 20/20. I have also downloaded it onto a DVD for personal use. Here is a link that you can view online: <http://abc.go.com/shows/2020/listing/2013-08/23-highway-confidential>



As a presenter at our conference, I will be sharing my curriculum that I have developed over the years. I continually improve and evolve the curriculum. The primary visual aid is Microsoft PowerPoint. The slides can be easily modified to fit your experience and local community. They have Windows Media Video (WMV) files imbedded in them that bring much of the concepts to life for the students. I have literally put hundreds upon hundreds of hours into these PowerPoints to share with you. I have supporting Microsoft Word documents that include tests, worksheets, and even older paper versions of the DMV written practice tests too. Please make every effort to make it to the conference and join us in Tracy. You will not be disappointed!

The "free right turn on red"

When traffic going straight has a red light, are motorists required to stop, or just yield when turning right from a dedicated right-turn lane such as shown in the photo below? The answer is that when there is a concrete or painted island separating the lanes and no signal to the driver's right as he turns, it is legal to make the turn without stopping. Of course, the driver still must slow down and prepare to stop for pedestrians, bicyclists and other vehicles. However, motorists must stop at similar intersections if there is a red light or stop sign to their right as they turn.

The problem here, according to *San Jose Mercury News* staff columnist Gary Richards ("Mr. Roadshow"), is that many California law enforcement officers and DMV license examiners interpret this "free right turn on red" situation as requiring a stop—and will issue traffic citations resulting in hundreds of dollars in fines or fail applicants taking the DMV road test. After receiving numerous complaints from his readers, Richards checked with DMV officials in Sacramento who said a full stop is required when turning right only when the turning lane has its own stop sign or a traffic signal that is red.



"Examiners are expected to have a basic understanding of the rules of the road," said Patrick Barrett, manager of driver licensing policy for the DMV. "If an examiner tells an applicant that he must stop at an intersection where the applicant must only yield the right of way, then that would be an error."

Added DMV spokesman Steve Haskins: "There is an implied yield at the intersection without signage. Of course, this should be clarified with the local law enforcement agency."

Richards then asked local police officers for their interpretations and received conflicting answers.

"I am not aware of the term 'free right turns,' and it is my opinion that drivers must stop behind the limit line of all red lights," said Fremont police Lt. Tom Mikkelsen. Milpitas police Lt. Tom Borck said about the same thing: "As far as the vehicle code stands, you are required to stop if there is no yield sign."

But, countered Campbell police Sgt. Chris Milosovich: "There is no requirement to stop unless there is a signal light or stop sign to the right." Added Palo Alto police Sgt. Steve Herrera: "It is a yield situation."

It should be noted that the "free right turn" situation is not mentioned in either the state *Vehicle Code* nor the *California Driver's Handbook*.

http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_6677141?source=infinite