



OHMVR COMMISSION MEETING Livermore, CA

February 25, 2012

STAFF REPORT: Public Safety Update
STAFF: Brian Robertson, Superintendent III, OHMVR Division
SUBJECT: OHMVR Division Law Enforcement Training Course

Summary

The Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division law enforcement team presented its recently developed Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Law Enforcement course on January 25, 2012 to federal and local law enforcement partner agencies. The training was held at Clear Lake State Park, in Lake County, 22 officers from eight law enforcement agencies in attendance. Exit surveys from those in attendance provided positive feedback regarding the course, content, and presenters.

Discussion

The goal of the OHV Law Enforcement course is to educate and provide partner law enforcement agencies a consistent interpretation and application of the California Vehicle Code (CVC) as it applies to all use and operation of OHVs on public lands. Likewise, the goal of the OHMVR Division is to increase law enforcement effectiveness by ensuring informed and effective OHV management responses are achieved through proper application of the CVC.

The January 25 training was the first class since the development of the course and subsequent certification by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). Topics discussed in the six-hour course included the applicability of CVC Division 16.5, OHV identification, equipment requirements, training requirements, and vehicle operation.

In addition to the OHV Law Enforcement course, the OHMVR Division also coordinated with Chris Real of DPS Technical Inc., to provide instruction on sound testing, spark arrestors, sound testing devices, and the training and certification necessary for their use. The training was an additional opportunity for law enforcement officers to gain valuable knowledge and learn important tools to perform sound testing in the field and to educate the public on issues related to sound.

Through lecture and hands-on practical training, officers received the certification necessary to perform sound testing in the field. This type of training gives officers the tools necessary to enforce sound violations and educate enthusiasts on sound and sound requirements related to OHV recreation.

The OHMVR Division Law Enforcement team introduced a new component within its training module which was well received from class participants. The OHMVR Division has incorporated an audience response system into its OHV law enforcement training presentation. The technology provides an audience response program allowing class participants to participate in presentations or lectures by submitting responses to interactive questions using a hand-held computer device.

The OHMVR Division designed its OHV law enforcement presentation to incorporate interactive learning with its class participants. With this technology law enforcement staff is now able to receive immediate feedback to test questions and learning objectives within its presentation. Additionally, the program provides visual feedback of the class participant's responses to tests within its presentation. Staff is able to compare results of the same test, given before the presentation and after, and receive in a visual format, comparative results of class success.

This training tool allows for a more interactive learning component. The testing and responses by participants are anonymous, therefore breaking down the participation barrier of a participant not wanting to speak up or to be wrong in front of their peers. The program also provides multiple report formats to track a number of learning objectives.

Commission Action

For information only.