

# **Table of Contents**

Background	1
2020 Drug Evaluation and Classification Program (DECP) Notable Accomplishments	2
Executive Summary	3
Enforcement Information	4
U.S. DECP States Totals	8
DECP States	10
Canadian DECP Totals	43
DRE Section and TAP Regional Representatives	44



# **Background**

he International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) is the world's largest and most influential professional association for police leaders. With more than 31,000 members in more than 160 countries, the IACP is a recognized leader in global policing. The IACP is known for its commitment to shaping the future of the police profession. Through timely research, programming, and unparalleled training opportunities, the IACP prepares current and emerging police leaders—and the agencies and communities they serve—to successfully address the most pressing issues, threats, and challenges of the day. IACP membership is open to law enforcement professionals of all ranks, as well as non-sworn leaders across the criminal justice system. Learn more about the IACP at www.theIACP.org.

Since 1984, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has supported the Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC) Program, often referred to as the Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Training Program. Initially developed by the Los Angeles, California, Police Department in the 1970s, DRE training has been validated through both laboratory and field studies. In 1987, NHTSA asked the Highway Safety Committee of the IACP to participate in the development and national expansion of the DEC Program, as well as to oversee the credentialing of certified DREs. Since that time, the program has grown both nationally and internationally. Additionally, IACP's role in coordinating and overseeing the program has also expanded. With the proliferation of drugged driving and changing drug laws, the need for DREs remains critical. The DEC Program is at the forefront of equipping law enforcement officers with the tools necessary to identify drugimpaired drivers and make roadways safer.

# **2020 Drug Evaluation and Classification Program Notable Accomplishments**

A

ccording to data from the DEC Program state coordinators, in 2020, three DREs conducted more than 100 enforcement evaluations each.

Chief Joel Spellins, 185 evaluations, Sherman PD, Mississippi Lieutenant Brandon White, 138 evaluations, Williamsburg PD, Kentucky Trooper Philip Treadway, 105 evaluations, Pennsylvania State Police

In addition, 11 DREs each conducted more than 50 enforcement evaluations in 2020.

Constable Mathieu Synott, 84 evaluations, Sûreté du Québec

**Officer Bob Rohmiller**, 65 evaluations, LeMars Police Department, Iowa

**Officer Tyler Weinoldt**, 62 evaluations, Lititz Borough Police Department, Pennsylvania

**Corporal Sherry Hogue**, 57 evaluations, Pennsylvania State Police

**Corporal Robert Means**, 52 evaluations, Pennsylvania State Police

**Trooper Matthew Thurner**, 51 evaluations, Pennsylvania State Police

**Trooper Sean Flannery**, 69 evaluations, Pennsylvania State Police

**Constable Brian Sampson**, 62 evaluations, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, British Columbia

**Corporal Thomas Dubovi, Jr**, 58 evaluations, Pennsylvania State Police

**Trooper Karen Yaneff**, 57 evaluations, Iowa State Patrol

**Deputy Corey Sammons**, 52 evaluations, Douglas County Sheriff's Office, Minnesota

# **Executive Summary**

er the DEC Program state coordinator reports, there were 8,150 DREs in the United States as of December 31, 2020. Of those, 2,222 DREs were employed by state police or highway patrol agencies; 4,291 were affiliated with city police or municipal agencies; 1,142 were with sheriff's departments; and 349 were with other agencies such as U.S. Park Police, U.S. Military Police, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, motor carrier compliance. Of the 8,150 DREs in the United States, 1,556 were also DRE instructors. In addition to the U.S. DREs, there were an additional 1,389 DREs in Canada. According to the submissions from state DEC Program coordinators, there were 2,872 law enforcement agencies in the United States in 2020 in which a DRE was serving within the organization.



#### DRE OFFICERS AND INSTRUCTOR TRAINING

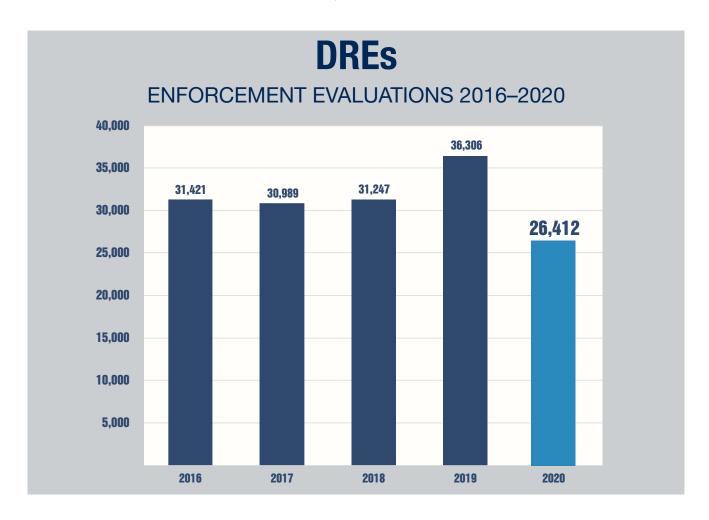
The global COVID-19 pandemic adversely impacted DRE training in 2020. There were 56 DRE schools conducted in 2020, training 783 officers as DREs. These results represented a decrease of 40 schools and 853 fewer students than in 2019. Additionally, there were 22 DRE instructor schools conducted, training 127 DRE instructors in the United States, a decrease of 15 schools and 89 fewer students than in the previous year. Since 2010, 932 DRE schools have been conducted in the United States.

There were 314 DRE recertification courses conducted in 29 states during 2020, up from 195 courses in 2019.

DRE instructors were instrumental in providing both Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) and SFST Instructor Development Courses (IDC) in the United States in 2020. At least 159 SFST practitioner courses were conducted in the United States in 2020, training 3,106 police officers. In addition, there were 5 SFST IDCs, providing 71 new SFST instructors.

### **Enforcement Information**

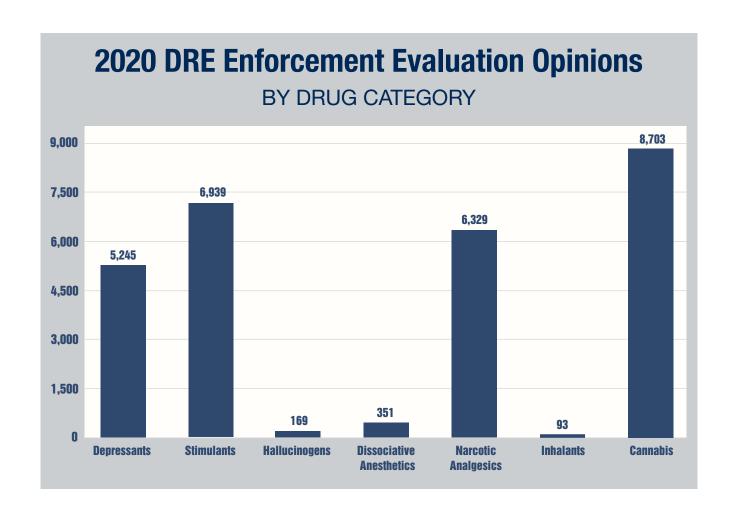
he global COVID-19 pandemic impacted DRE enforcement efforts as well. In 2020, 32,821 DRE drug influence evaluations, representing the enforcement and training environments, were reported by the DRE state coordinators. Of those, enforcement evaluations were 26,412, and 6,409 were training evaluations. The 26,185 enforcement evaluations represent a decrease of 8,166 evaluations from 2019.



In the United States, cannabis was the most frequently identified drug category in 2020 with 8,703 opinions made by DREs. Central Nervous System (CNS) stimulants were the second most with 6,939 opinions, followed by Narcotic Analgesics (opioids) with 6,329 opinions, and then CNS depressants at 5,245 opinions. Not surprisingly, decreases were noted in all drug categories between 2019 and 2020.

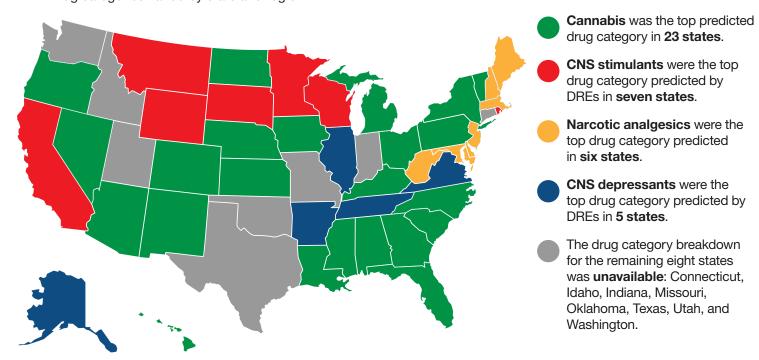
#### **UNITED STATES DRE DATA SYSTEM DATA**

Efforts continued in 2020 to encourage DREs to use the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) DRE Data System (DDS). Data collected from the DDS indicated 732,187 total drug influence evaluations (training, enforcement, other) have been entered into the system since it went operational in 2001.



#### **DRUG CATEGORY OPINIONS/PREDICTIONS BY DRES**

Drug categories varied by state and region.



#### DRE SCHOOL VISITS AND TRAINING

Despite travel limitations resulting from COVID-19, IACP monitored, instructed, or assisted at SFST and DRE IDCs, DRE preliminary schools, DRE 7-day schools, DRE recertification courses, DRE in-service trainings, SFST practitioner training courses, and Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) training courses. At each of these training visits, the IACP met with the DEC Program state coordinator or designee and provided information on the roles of the IACP, NHTSA, and the IACP DRE Section. In addition, regional project managers stressed the importance of DREs using the National DDS.

#### **SUPPORT**

The IACP reviewed ARIDE and DRE course managers' reports and recorded recommended manual revisions for possible incorporation into the next curricula updates. The IACP also assisted in ensuring all DEC Program state coordinators received the latest SFST, ARIDE, and DRE training materials, which included updated and revised quizzes and exams. The materials were also posted on the IACP DEC Program website for state coordinator access.

#### **IMPAIRED DRIVING CURRICULUM UPDATES**

IACP continues to collect feedback from the states regarding the February 2018 SFST, ARIDE, and DRE curricula. The IACP continues to collect and review ARIDE and DRE training course manager reports for possible curriculum revisions. These issues are provided to the Curricula Workgroup of the IACP DRE Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) and the NHTSA/IACP curriculum workshop participants.

#### DRUG IMPAIRMENT TRAINING FOR EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS (DITEP)

Although funding for this innovative drug intervention program for schools and other educational settings ceased in 2007, states have continued to offer it with IACP's support. In 2020, 12 states conducted 47 DITEP classes, training 1,155 school administrators, teachers, nurses, and school resource officers. The IACP staff supported this initiative by making the curriculum available to the states and continuing to direct DITEP inquiries to the individual DEC Program state coordinators. Idaho conducted the most DITEP courses with 10 classes in 2020.



#### ADVANCED ROADSIDE IMPAIRED DRIVING ENFORCEMENT (ARIDE)

In 2020, ARIDE training was conducted in 47 states. A total of 491 ARIDE classes were held in the United States in 2020, a decrease of 390 classes from the previous year, resulting in the training of 8,216 police officers, prosecutors, and toxicologists. Since the inception of the ARIDE training program in 2009, 126,435 police officers, prosecutors, and toxicologists have received the training. In 2020, Illinois led the United States with 52 ARIDE classroom courses.

ARIDE continues to be an effective means of referring suspected drug-impaired driving cases to DREs.

#### CONCLUSION

The global pandemic led to a decrease in DRE and ARIDE training due to public health disease control and prevention protections. However, as the health crisis subsides, and with the continued support from NHTSA, state highway programs, and the provinces of Canada, renewed efforts to reinvigorate the DEC Program will emerge. Efforts to expand the reach of DREs to all patrol officers continue, and states continue to develop innovative methods of making DREs accessible to assist with impaired driving investigations.

# **U.S. DECP State Totals**

CURRENT DRES	OTHER	
Number of certified DREs8,150	Alcohol impairment only	52
Number of DRE instructors1,556	Medical impairment	350
Number of state police/	Opinion of not impaired	1,18
highway patrol DREs2,222	Toxicology found no drugs	699
Number of city police department DREs4,291	Toxicology refused	3,013
Number of sheriff's department DREs1,142	DRE TRAINING	
Number of other agency DREs349	Number of DRE schools	
Number of LE agencies with	Number of students	
certified DREs2,872	Number of DRE instructor schools	
EVALUATIONS	Number of students	127
Number of enforcement	Number of DRE recertification classes	314
evaluations26,412	ARIDE TRAINING	
Number of training evaluations6,409	Number of ARIDE schools	49 <sup>-</sup>
Total number of evaluations32,821	Number of students	8,216
DRUG CATEGORY (DRES' OPINIONS)	DITEP TRAINING	
Depressants5,245	Number of classes	47
<b>Stimulants</b> 6,939	Number of students	1,15
Hallucinogens169	DUI EROTOMY TRAINING	
Dissociative Anesthetics351	PHLEBOTOMY TRAINING	
Narcotic Analgesics6,329	Number of classes	
Inhalants93	Number of students	110
<b>Cannabis</b> 8,703	SFST TRAINING	
POLY DRUGS USE	Number of SFST classes	159
Total number11,196	Number of students trained	3,10
	Number of SFST Instructor classes	
	Number of students	7

# **DECP Statistics by States**

DEC Program state coordinators were invited to share a summary of their state's accomplishments and challenges for the 2020 calendar year, as well as other related training and interesting DRE-related investigations. The following summaries are included from their perspective.



# **U.S. DECP State Totals for 2020**

	STATE	AL	AK	AZ	AR	CA	CO	CT	DE	FL	GA	HI	ID	IL	IN	IA	KS	КҮ	LA	ME	MD	MA	MI	MN	MS
	Certified DREs	70	26	309	96	1437	179	64	47	317	157	49	119	122	218	105	70	53	110	106	163	121	144	216	47
	DRE Instructors	26	9	82	16	174	41	7	13	63	45	25	30	28	37	23	14	11	17	21	47	17	18	70	20
	State Police/HW Patrol DREs	25	9	41	7	542	49	15	22	74	19	0	34	16	47	21	20	7	56	12	23	16	32	47	7
Current DREs	City Police DREs	36	17	210	75	749	101	47	17	133	79	45	64	97	113	44	35	29	14	77	26	103	72	110	29
	Sheriff's Department DREs	8	0	48	11	121	23	0	0	103	40	1	21	7	43	31	15	4	18	14	34	0	34	59	8
	Other Agency DREs	1	0	9	3	25	6	2	8	7	19	3	0	1	15	9	0	6	21	3	88	3	6	0	3
	Agencies with DREs	27	10	46	45	198	62	35	15	98	67	7	37	76	83	61	36	29	22	61	37	76	86	113	29
	Enforcement evaluations	221	59	1264	170	5101	155	97	217	736	218	89	425	155	51	665	507	240	86	542	1124	247	761	582	261
Evaluations	Training evaluations	217	0	340	142	540	52	8	146	724	390	42	141	232	314	7	14	7	8	70	129	7	40	190	116
	Total number of evaluations	438	59	1604	312	5641	207	105	363	1460	608	131	566	387	365	672	521	247	94	612	1253	254	801	772	377
	Depressants	65	9	279	33	347	22	NR	19	209	111	13	NR	98	NR	90	189	85	10	65	364	38	155	84	29
	Stimulants	76	6	563	18	1614	35	NR	24	191	123	36	NR	18	NR	218	128	140	3	76	206	30	198	272	82
D	Hallucinogens	2	0	5	0	45	2	NR	0	11	3	4	NR	0	NR	3	4	0	1	1	8	0	9	2	0
Drug Category (DRE's	Dissociative Anesthetics	11	0	7	6	44	2	NR	3	18	2	0	NR	2	NR	4	9	2	2	0	74	3	3	11	0
Opinion)	Narcotic Analgesics	48	6	542	14	613	23	NR	43	162	43	15	NR	48	NR	46	88	88	10	123	517	59	179	136	46
	Inhalants	1	0	2	0	6	0	NR	1	9	1	3	NR	0	NR	4	7	0	0	2	6	4	3	2	1
	Cannabis	122	4	781	30	1125	57	NR	21	297	193	84	NR	60	NR	315	241	157	15	93	231	55	297	138	189
# Polycategory cases	Total Number	165	25	639	42	2508	60	NR	45	647	285	48	57	75	57	194	71	122	33	268	527	42	320	387	113
	Alcohol impairment only	1	0	4	0	11	0	3	7	5	1	1	0	0	0	1	4	47	0	0	9	5	2	0	3
	Medical impairment only	0	0	20	2	15	2	0	4	14	4	3	0	0	0	11	8	2	0	23	17	1	9	6	9
	Opinions of not impaired	2	0	59	12	90	5	3	10	14	3	4	0	2	0	46	27	2	1	49	65	5	11	16	2
	Toxicologies result no drugs	6	0	67	4	83	7	22	13	43	6	5	0	2	0	16	7	3	1	5	17	45	14	14	
	Toxicology refusals	22	0	4	14	148	18	20	1	93	53	5	11	40	1	152	38	100	16	54	420	47	1	42	14
	DRE Schools	3	0	5	1	10	0	0	1	3	2	1	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1
	Students	19	0	71	17	163	0	0	10	50	22	11	12	21	20	0	12	0	0	0	15	13	0	21	12
DRE Training	DRE Instructor Courses	1	0	4	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	DRE Instructor Students	8	0	22	0	7	0	0	9	0	12	7	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
	DRE Recertification Courses	1	0	27	1	70	3	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	1	6	2	0	0	5	0	1	0	0	1
ADIDE Training	ARIDE Classes	16	1	15	4	33	2	3	2	14	15	1	8	52	4	3	9	9	2	3	10	1	0	21	11
ARIDE Training	ARIDE Students	200	6	178	62	494	44	84	30	292	194	8	129	932	61	77	110	173	40	36	131	27	0	306	152
DITED TO SECOND	DITEP Classes	0	1	1	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DITEP Training	DITEP Students	0	10	5	0	129	0	0	0	0	0	0	346	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Phlebotomy	Phlebotomy Classes	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Training	Phlebotomy Students	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	8	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	10	0
	SFST Classes	34	0	33	17	48	4	2	4	15	24	10	17	1	10	0	29	12	5	10	UK	UK	4	15	15
	SFST Class Students	1112	0	596	378	749	44	62	90	301	414	232	267	22	362	0	549	394	98	56	UK	UK	47	241	208
SFST Training	SFST Instructor Development Courses	2	0	8	1	2	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	1
	SFST Instructor Students	36	0	52	7	17	38	0	0	18	20	2	0	38	43	0	0	0	0	22	29	0	0	0	16

	STATE	MO	MT	NE	NV	NH	NJ	NM	NY	NC	ND	OH	OK	OR	PA	RI	SC	SD	TN	TX	UT	VT	VA	WA	WV	WI	WY
	Certified DREs	158	52	93	63	84	462	57	322	167	35	203	170	176	209	59	97	64	243	371	72	57	22	136	42	331	60
	DRE Instructors	39	9	17	19	18	53	9	33	22	6	26	80	36	58	12	28	11	24	49	36	5	7	39	5	39	22
	State Police/HW Patrol DREs	54	14	26	17	29	78	12	101	38	8	78	28	44	101	15	43	22	111	128	20	21	6	56	7	12	12
Current DREs	City Police DREs	76	22	52	30	54	373	33	134	93	22	104	126	89	108	43	34	27	79	80	39	32	6	64	15	205	29
	Sheriff's Department DREs	25	12	15	8	1	4	8	78	20	5	21	11	42	0	0	11	12	48	23	6	1	0	15	20	97	16
	Other Agency DREs	3	4	1	8	0	7	4	9	16	0	0	5	1	0	1	9	4	5	7	7	3	10	1	0	3	3
	Agencies with DREs	58	21	30	27	42	228	20	129	70	15	89	51	61	91	25	35	24	71	111	32	23	12	54	27	142	28
	Enforcement evaluations	0	170	307	20	63	1239	164	2557	711	84	422	113	882	1864	77	139	90	208	592	118	423	78	798	333	901	86
Evaluations	Training evaluations	0	171	2	30	11	301	3	295	209	0	151	48	96	267	80	128	153	45	85	83	142	2	25	0	178	28
	Total number of evaluations	0	341	309	50	74	1540	167	2852	920	84	573	161	978	2131	157	267	243	253	677	201	565	80	823	333	1079	114
	Depressants	NR	33	62	1	11	495	33	898	63	13	105	NR	244	453	24	39	30	114	NR	NR	92	21	NR	61	131	8
	Stimulants	NR	108	41	3	4	303	29	764	38	14	105	NR	285	531	57	36	85	57	NR	NR	85	6	NR	86	212	33
Davis Catanani	Hallucinogens	NR	3	2	0	0	12	0	18	2	1	3	NR	7	8	0	1	5	1	NR	NR	0	0	NR	0	6	0
Drug Category (DRE's	Dissociative Anesthetics	NR	0	4	0	0	39	2	66	7	1	5	NR	6	0	2	3	3	2	NR	NR	3	0	NR	0	4	1
Opinion)	Narcotic Analgesics	NR	36	21	0	14	720	32	1013	68	9	133	NR	212	621	46	37	3	70	NR	NR	129	16	NR	114	177	9
	Inhalants	NR	2	3	0	1	6	1	3	2	0	1	NR	7	4	0	3	0	0	NR	NR	3	0	NR	1	3	1
	Cannabis	NR	90	88	4	6	394	35	1171	101	25	159	NR	440	860	48	58	85	103	NR	NR	193	19	NR	110	186	23
# Polycategory cases	Total Number	NR	82	97	11	22	610	39	1,178	369	24	NR	NR	372	NR	58	85	97	119	254	90	137	30	271	85	391	45
	Alcohol impairment only	0	0	1	0	0	68	1	175	0	1	21	2	10	83	32	1	0	5	0	0	15	0	0	1	1	0
	Medical impairment only	0	4	4	1	0	15	12	31	7	4	10	1	37	41	0	1	1	5	0	0	11	0	11	3	4	0
	Opinions of not impaired	0	8	17	2	3	175	9	175	18	6	15	2	48	179	1	1	0	14	1	0	15	0	47	7	8	6
	Toxicologies result no drugs	0	10	3	1	1	12	13	89	8	9	15	9	37	NR	5	1	3	18	2	16	24	3	13	0	24	3
	Toxicology refusals	0	20	27	0	14	374	43	432	11	10	89	26	7	271	35	20	2	17	22	0	64	3	43	121	48	0
	DRE Schools	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	2	1	1	1	0	1	2	0	1	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	1
	Students	10	0	0	10	0	44	0	38	14	13	7	0	16	28	4	4	13	20	0	23	12	0	0	0	23	15
DRE Training	DRE Instructor Courses	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
	DRE Instructor Students	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	10	0	8	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	4
	DRE Recertification Courses	1	0	0	0	0	4	1	7	1	0	10	128	0	2	0	3	0	9	12	0	1	0	1	0	4	6
ARIDE Training	ARIDE Classes	19	5	5	7	0	15	14	12	22	0	11	11	7	26	5	13	5	9	12	10	4	2	10	4	17	7
ARIDE ITAINING	ARIDE Students	253	89	63	74	0	286	149	435	155	0	364	216	117	503	72	201	67	112	304	249	54	53	160	88	296	90
DITED Training	DITEP Classes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	9	0	3	0	1	0	7	0
DITEP Training	DITEP Students	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	12	0	0	24	0	0	0	60	0	0	351	0	53	0	10	0	121	0
Phlebotomy	Phlebotomy Classes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	0
Training	Phlebotomy Students	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	0	0	21	0	0	0
	SFST Classes	81	6	10	0	3	6	0	32	64	21	0	15	52	36	2	36	5	7	n/a	12	3	51	25	4	41	4
	SFST Class Students	891	213	257	435	184	121	0	484	712	327	0	425	674	963	82	1068	128	375	n/a	350	43	1138	325	200	763	105
SFST Training	SFST Instructor Development Courses	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	2	1	7	0	4	0	0	n/a	0	0	3	2	0	4	1
	SFST Instructor Students	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	43	13	0	0	48	6	73	0	66	0	0	n/a	0	0	47	26	0	59	10

### **Alabama**

#### **Narrative**

The Alabama DEC Program/Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) Program has continued to grow and become very successful in the last five years. When the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) first started managing the program, there were 12 DREs certified in the state. There are now 70 certified DREs in 27 state, city, and county agencies, reflecting more than 500 percent growth in the program in just five years.

#### **Other Training**

SFST and DRE instructors taught 23 SFST Refresher classes. DRE instructors continued to teach the new *Recognizing Cannabis Impairment* class. More than 100 officers attended one of five statewide offerings. Additionally, DREs continued to assist the Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor (TSRP) and Office of Prosecutorial Services (OPS) in training police officers and prosecutors in DUI protocols, traffic homicide investigation (THI) case preparation, and ignition interlock changes and updates.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

Along with training DREs, the Alabama DEC Program also assumed the role of managing DUI enforcement and SFST training with local agencies and regional Alabama Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission (APOSTC) academies across the state. This has improved DUI enforcement training by standardizing the instruction for law enforcement officers and upholding high standards in the delivery of the material.

Submitted by Corporal William Frederick, Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, AL DEC Program State Coordinator

### Alaska

#### **Narrative**

The Alaska DEC Program experienced a loss of credentialed DREs during the year, beginning the year with 38, and ending 2020 with 26 certified DREs. The loss in certified DREs was a result of retirements, reassignments, out of state moves, and voluntary de-certifications. Evaluations and trainings faced significant reductions as a result of COVID-19 and other reasons outside of the control of the state DEC Program. Travel was restricted by many agencies during the year as well as in-person trainings, which resulted in an inability to offer both in-state and out-of-state training.

Submitted by Lieutenant Cornelius Sims, Alaska State Troopers, AK DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Arizona**

#### **Narrative**

In 2020, Arizona faced significant challenges in impaired driving programs training and impaired driving enforcement due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With assistance and funding from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS), Arizona adapted and overcame these training setbacks and maintained its high level of DUI enforcement capabilities at a reduced staffing capacity.

In January 2020, Arizona implemented the use of the Arizona DRE Database Entry Management System. With this program, all DRE trained officers entered all enforcement and training evaluations into the database to accurately reflect the productivity in the state.

Since the pandemic forced the cancellation of the 2020 annual Arizona GOHS Law Enforcement and Prosecutors Conference, the GOHS created a semi-virtual "In-Service DRE Refresher" for all DREs to attend. This training clarified previous announcements to ensure all DREs were in compliance with standards set forth by the IACP and the enhanced Arizona State DRE standards.

Although COVID-19 posed a threat to overall productivity, Arizona continued to push through these challenges and ensured impaired driving was still a top priority for the GOHS.

#### **Other Training**

The Mesa Police Department held three training classes for the Department of Child Safety and two training classes for the Maricopa County Adult Probation academy, discussing "Drugs that Impair." The classes focused on substance abuse issues stemming from the seven drug categories learned in the DEC Program. The training classes were presented by DRE instructors, and the classes were highly effective in providing case workers and probation officers a detailed view in how substance abuse issues can be detected by visual observations and simple, nonintrusive testing methods.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

In 2020, the Arizona GOHS began focusing efforts on providing rural areas of the state with impaired driving training. Arizona cities initiated steps to add DRE trained officers to address the rise in drug-impaired driving due to recreational marijuana laws. The GOHS continued to assist the Grand Canyon National Parks Service, the Colorado City Marshal's Office, and multiple tribal agencies throughout the state to increase the number of impaired driving trained officers.

Submitted by Officer George Chwe, Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety, AZ DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Arkansas**

#### **Narrative**

Arkansas struggled through the year with COVID-19 issues like other states. A DRE School was cancelled, as were DRE recertification trainings. Arkansas appointed a new state coordinator during this challenging time, and she is working to manage the DEC Program and keep all current DREs in active status. Some agencies had restrictions on face-to-face contacts, including traffic stops and DRE evaluations, which limited the number of enforcement evaluations during the year.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

A DRE in White County was contacted and asked to perform an enforcement evaluation on a possible impaired driver. When the DRE entered the detention center, where the driver was being held, it was immediately noticed that the suspected impaired driver was showing signs of a drug overdose. The suspect was taken to the local hospital and was treated for an opioid overdose. It was determined the actions of the DRE saved the driver's life.

Submitted by Andrea Cherry, Arkansas Criminal Justice Institute, AR DEC Program State Coordinator

### **California**

#### **Narrative**

In 2020, California deployed Microsoft Surface Pro Tablets with newly developed DRE Manager software. California Highway Patrol (CHP) DREs piloted the software with great success, and there are plans to distribute tablets to all DREs within California in 2021–2022. The CHP also finalized its partnership with the University of San Diego and the Department of Motor Vehicles for the live drive alcohol/cannabis study being conducted at the CHP Academy. Two studies involving cannabis-impaired drivers and combination cannabis-and alcohol-impaired drivers are scheduled to start early 2021, and California DREs will play an integral role during the study.

#### Other Training

California DRE instructors participated in several trainings throughout the state in 2020. Instructors continued to focus on the education component of the DEC Program. Instructors presented forensic toxicology courses at several high school and college campuses emphasizing the importance of DRE involvement in cases involving drugs and/or alcohol.

Instructors presented virtually at the California Prosecutors Traffic College, which was attended by district attorneys, law enforcement officers, and toxicologists from around the state. Instructors also continued their partnership with the Department of Public Health in educating DUI counselors in the identification of drugimpaired individuals.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

In December of 2020, officers from the Newport Beach Police Department were dispatched to a traffic collision involving multiple fatalities. The responding officer, a tenured DRE and SFST instructor, observed signs of drug impairment in the driver suspected of causing the collision. Although the driver was injured and transported from the scene by medical personnel, the DRE was able to gather important evidence at the scene, which will undoubtedly be crucial in the prosecution of the case.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

The CHP finalized their cannabis grants program, and \$27 million in funding will be available in 2021 for impaired driving enforcement, education, and best practices.

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) increased their DRE cadre by 30 percent after implementing a DRE skill/retention pay program. LAPD hopes to have another significant increase in DRE officers in 2021.

California's DEC Program was honored to have DRE Eric Franke of the Orange County District Attorney's Office receive the Karen Tarney-Bookstaff DRE of the Year Award at the 2020 IACP Training Conference on Drugs, Alcohol and Impaired Driving (DAID) Conference.

Submitted by Sergeant Glen Glaser Jr., California Highway Patrol, CA DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Colorado**

#### **Narrative**

In 2020, Colorado focused on strengthening the DEC Program by expanding an equipment replacement project. The Colorado State Patrol and the DEC Program state coordinator partnered to replace previously issued penlights with the ToxOptics X3 light. The next phase involves the replacement of previously issued thermometers with the Welch-Allyn Sure Temp 690. Additionally, the DEC Program state coordinator partnered with the Colorado TSRP and approved an online training platform that created remote training opportunities to meet or exceed biennial recertification requirements. In-person training was also provided with an emphasis on communication and getting back to basics.

#### Other Training

Colorado provided joint in-person training to 117 DRE and SFST instructors. The training curriculum emphasized the systematic and structured administration of the SFSTs. The first online remote learning training was provided to 154 DREs and SFST instructors to meet mandatory recertification requirements. A DRE instructor from the Westminster Police Department attended the IACP's virtual DRE School Course Manager training held in December.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

One of the greatest challenges facing the Colorado DEC Program in 2020 was the cancellation of the three-day Impaired Driving Training Seminar scheduled in April. There were more than 500 registrants at the time of the cancellation. Also, the 2020 DRE instructor and practitioner schools were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, Colorado was quick to respond to the needs of the DREs and implemented a remote training and learning opportunity as described above.

Submitted by Kimberly Ferber, Colorado Department of Transportation, CO DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Connecticut**

#### **Narrative**

The COVID-19 pandemic impacted all DRE/Impaired Driving training activities as well as DRE enforcement evaluations. Connecticut had a robust training schedule for 2020, which originally included hosting a DRE School. Most, if not all, of the trainings were cancelled due to various levels of shutdown caused by the pandemic. Connecticut is looking forward to 2021 to resume all trainings in anticipation and preparation for the legislative legalization of recreational marijuana.

Submitted by Sergeant Robert Klin (Ret.), Connecticut DOT, Highway Safety Office, CT DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Delaware**

#### **Narrative**

In 2020, Delaware, like all other states, dealt with the COVID-19 pandemic. There was a decrease in DRE callouts and evaluations in the spring, however they picked up in the summer and fall. DRE field certifications were conducted in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for the first time and proved to be very successful.

#### **Other Training**

In addition to ARIDE classes, Delaware DREs continued to assist teaching SFST classes at police academies in the state. A DRE in-service training planned for late 2020 had to be canceled due to COVID-19 and will be rescheduled for 2021. All DREs in the state are now equipped with tablets. Students were issued tablets at DRE School for the first time, and they contained the DRE manuals and other DRE related forms and documents. This helped facilitate training and allowed all reports generated during field certifications to be completed using the tablet.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

With the addition of new DREs in 2020, Delaware DREs performed the most since the state's involvement in the program. The Delaware Office of Highway Safety, always very supportive of the DEC Program, continued to fund equipment and callouts statewide. COVID-19 was a challenge but was overcome by the dedicated DREs in the state.

Submitted by Lieutenant Andrew Rubin, Newark Police Department, DE DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Florida**

#### **Narrative**

A new DEC Program state coordinator was appointed in January 2020. All DRE School field certifications were conducted at the Clara White Mission in Jacksonville. A fourth DRE region was added and consisted entirely of state officers. A training committee was formed to assist with recertification training curriculum.

#### **Other Training**

DRE recertification was held online, as well as a live class, held in conjunction with time at the Clara White Mission for evaluations. This provided an excellent opportunity for DREs that have moved up in rank or changed positions to maintain their certifications.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

On two separate occasions, two different officers used their DRE training to determine that subjects were suffering from medical impairment (dementia) which assisted in them getting necessary care.

Submitted by Carol Jolly, Institute of Police Technology & Management, FL DEC Program State Coordinator

### Georgia

#### **Narrative**

In 2020, the Georgia DEC Program saw many significant changes starting with a new state coordinator appointed in March. COVID-19 issues placed a hold on training for two months in Georgia. As restrictions loosened, two DRE Schools were held and both schools conducted field certifications in Jacksonville, Florida, without issues. The program saw a significant decline in active DREs from the prior year.

#### **Other Training**

The Georgia DEC Program worked in conjunction with the state's Prosecuting Attorneys' Council (PAC) and assisted with numerous trainings in 2020. They included joint law enforcement/prosecutor/toxicologist training programs, including Prosecuting the Drugged Driver, From Stop to State Court, a two-day statewide SFST refresher, and driving under the influence of drugs (DUID) investigations and report writing courses. These trainings, conferences, and seminars were taught by DRE instructors. Throughout 2020, PAC implemented webinar-based training and several webinars were instructed by DRE instructors.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

In 2020, Georgia's Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) implemented a requirement for all HEAT (grant-funded DUI cars within numerous agencies around the state) unit agencies to have at least one DRE in the unit. This requirement resulted in a need for an additional DRE School and an increase in funding to support it. In FY 2021, three DRE Schools are planned.

The West Georgia Technical College, Georgia GOHS, Georgia State Patrol, and the Georgia Public Safety Training Center have begun to implement a phlebotomy program. The curriculum will be built in early 2021.

Submitted by Michael Blute, Georgia Public Safety Training Center, GA DEC Program State Coordinator

### Hawaii

#### **Narrative**

The COVID-19 pandemic greatly impacted Hawaii and the state's DEC Program. The state's governor issued shelter-at-home proclamations at the end of March, during the statewide DRE School hosted by the Honolulu Police Department. Fortunately, the classroom training was completed, but it delayed the field certification training. However, the shutdowns and travel restrictions lasted longer than expected, so all law enforcement agencies conducted certification training independently. COVID-19 safety protocols, restrictions on large gatherings, social distancing, and volunteers' reluctance to participate in evaluations became additional challenges.

#### **Other Training**

DRE-related trainings in Hawaii, including an annual in-service training, were delayed for most of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the pandemic spurred innovation and a greater reliance on technology, transitioning to virtual platforms to host trainings and inviting other states to attend. This provided more training opportunities for Hawaii's DREs to access quality presentations from renowned speakers and subject matter experts.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

Case #1: DREs were called to evaluate a driver who had rear-ended a parked car on the side of the road. The parked car's occupants (driver and front seat passenger) were smoking cannabis. The suspected impaired driver later admitted to inhaling 80 "whippets" (nitrous oxide) that day, 10 while he was driving. The DREs opined that the driver was under the influence of an inhalant, cannabis, and alcohol.

Case #2: A driver was suspected to be under the influence of four drug categories: cannabis, hallucinogens, CNS depressants, and narcotic analgesics. During the interview portion of the evaluation, the driver admitted he had woken up and immediately smoked cannabis, then consumed psilocybin mushrooms. The driver also admitted that within 30 minutes before driving, he smoked heroin and was smoking cannabis while driving. As he was performing the divided attention tests, he told the DRE that he could not proceed because he was hallucinating.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

COVID-19 created many challenges for Hawaii's DEC Program including significant impacts on forensic toxicology testing. The pandemic has demonstrated a need for an in-state, state-operated laboratory, rather than relying on private labs and/or labs located in the continental United States.

A major challenge in 2020 was agency and county safety protocols for COVID-19 limiting DREs' ability to obtain instructor-witnessed recertification evaluations and conduct field certification training for DRE certifications.

Submitted by Karen Kahikina, Hawaii DOT, Highway Safety Office, HI DEC Program State Coordinator

### Idaho

#### **Narrative**

The COVID-19 pandemic had numerous impacts on Idaho's DEC Program in 2020. Some law enforcement departments restricted their DREs from conducting enforcement evaluations due to COVID-19 health concerns. Training early in the year was cancelled or postponed. However, Idaho remained productive in enforcement evaluations and offering training, much of which was completed using virtual training and distance-learning.

#### **Other Training**

Idaho DRE instructors provided other drug impairment training as well in 2020. This included drug impairment recognition to Idaho Health and Welfare supervisors, drug impairment classes to students and teachers outside of the formal DITEP program, and drug impairment recognition classes for civilian businesses and hospital staff.

Submitted by Sergeant Chris Glenn, Idaho State Police, ID DEC Program State Coordinator

### Illinois

#### **Narrative**

As the Illinois DEC Program was beginning efforts to expand to address the legalization of cannabis in the state, the COVID-19 pandemic curtailed both training and enforcement. Enforcement declined as police agencies directed officers to limit face-to-face contact with people, including traffic stops, for the officers' safety. This included restrictions on the administration of portable breath testing (PBT) or evidentiary breath tests. In addition, to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus, most training was prohibited. One DRE School was able to be conducted in August. The field certification phase was conducted at two locations, Carol Stream and Decatur, Illinois.

The Cook County State's Attorney Office and the Chicago Police Department were very receptive to ARIDE training. In support of the program, the Chicago Police Department sent an officer assigned to the Training Division to a DRE School in California. Subsequently, the academy has scheduled back-to-back ARIDE classes for both police officer and prosecutor participants.

#### Other Training

DREs in Illinois routinely teach at the public schools in many communities. Additionally, DRE instructors were asked to present to the Lake County Bar Association. The training session was attended by more than 100 attorneys and judges. A grant was received to conduct "Enforcing Illinois Cannabis Laws" training in all regions of the state. This was a highly requested class due to recent legalization of cannabis.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

The DuPage County Coroner announced two drugs were involved in 15 deaths in the county: Flualprazolam and Isotonitazene A press release was generated and forwarded to all DREs. After the information was distributed, during an evaluation a DRE opined impairment from a CNS Depressant and a Narcotic Analgesic. Toxicology results from the evaluation identified the same drugs that were reported by the DuPage County Coroner.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

Limitations on face-to-face contact made it difficult to review DRE performance and to conduct recertifications of expiring DREs. An ongoing challenge will be to recertify DREs that remain in an expired status.

Due to COVID-19, eight ARIDE classes and two SFST IDC classes were cancelled in 2020. However, with six individual grants for DRE instructors, training was expanded and extra ARIDE classes across the state were conducted late in the year. The Cook County Sheriff's Office applied for and received the NHTSA/IACP Drug Impaired Driving Enforcement Training (DIDET) contract. The funding will allow for conducting supplemental monthly ARIDE training classes and a DRE School for agencies within the county.

Submitted by Thomas Turek, Illinois Highway Safety Office, IL DEC Program State Coordinator

### Indiana

#### **Narrative**

During the year, Indiana conducted DRE courses within the highs and lows of COVID-19. The training allowed Indiana to add 40 new DREs in the state during the year.

#### **Other Training**

Indiana deployed 80 SoToxa Oral Fluid Test units during the year. Train-the-trainer sessions were conducted throughout the state. Prior to using the devices, officers were required to complete a training regimen that included classroom training, written assessment, and the psychomotor skill of collecting an oral fluid sample. Indiana will be collecting data from all tests conducted in the field and comparing them to blood results from samples submitted to the Indiana State Department of Toxicology. This data will lead to a program assessment and report within a year of implementation. There were several instances where the very first enforcement use of the device resulted in a drug-impaired driving arrest.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

In January of 2019, the report time for blood results for drug analysis in Indiana was about 50 weeks. Through aggressive partnership activities, the reporting time was reduced to an average of 60 days by October 2019, and by sustaining and improving the process, the average report time was down to 40 days in October 2020. The primary focus of the efforts was to support DRE officers and prosecutors by facilitating timely results to support the filings for DRE cases.

The Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) presented select Indiana law enforcement officers with the state's first-ever Traffic Safety All-Star award. The Traffic Safety All-Star award program was created to recognize law enforcement officers who are going above and beyond their normal duties to keep drivers and their communities safe while working to combat impaired driving. Combined, the 66 officers who received the inaugural award totaled more than 3,000 Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) arrests.

Submitted by Marshall Depew, Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, IN DEC Program State Coordinator

### lowa

#### **Narrative**

In 2020, the lowa DEC Program was greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, including the cancellation of training classes and a reduction in the number of certified DREs. lowa had a decrease of 21 certified DREs to 105 in 2020. The DREs were successful in continuing their drugged driver enforcement efforts during the year.

#### **Other Training**

Three search warrant workshops were conducted during the year. The class, titled Chaos to Courtroom: Crash Response for the DRE, encouraged DREs to work with their command staff to develop crash response teams that include a DRE for all serious and fatal crashes. The training included information about the proper way to complete a search warrant and the DRE's role in serious and fatal motor vehicle crashes by investigating the drivers and obtaining a toxicology specimen if probable cause of impairment is established.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

Training may still be limited in 2021, but Iowa will strive to grow the DEC Program and return to the prepandemic number of certified DREs.

Submitted by Todd Olmstead, Iowa Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau, IA DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Kansas**

#### **Narrative**

Even with the many restrictions in place due to COVID-19 in 2020, the Kansas DEC Program did not see a significant reduction in DRE evaluations. Overall, Kansas DREs stayed active and were able to perform evaluations as shown by an increase from 433 enforcement evaluations in 2019. However, Kansas had difficulties in the field certification phase due to travel restrictions. Adjustments were made, and most of the 2020 DRE School class was able to complete field certifications locally.

#### Other Training

The Kansas DEC Program hosted a joint Law Enforcement Officer and Prosecutors Conference in 2020. The conference was conducted virtually and hosted through the assistance of the Kansas Attorney General's Office, the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP), and the Sedgwick County District Attorney's Office. During the year, several DREs across the state used their training and expertise to teach parents and educators about trends in youth drug use.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

In 2020, the KHP Drug and Alcohol Evaluation Unit received the Golden Achievement Award from MADD Kansas. The award stated, "In appreciation of your continued support of MADD's mission to eliminate drunk and drugged driving through your outstanding expertise, education, and enforcement in impaired driving prevention." The KHP will continue efforts to partner with other impaired driving prevention stakeholders.

Submitted by Lieutenant Matt Payne, Kansas Highway Patrol, KS DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Kentucky**

#### **Narrative**

Restrictions due to COVID-19 in 2020 affected many Kentucky training courses. Kentucky had to cancel a DRE School, but it was rescheduled for February 2021. The DEC Program assisted the Kentucky TSRPs with six Cops in Court classes throughout the state.

#### **Other Training**

The Kentucky DEC Program delivered a presentation to new chiefs of police about the DEC Program. The DEC Program also assisted with prosecutor training in Kentucky and Ohio. Several Zoom informational calls on the DEC Program and the states DREs were offered through the state's Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) regional meetings.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

In a year where some states saw DRE evaluations decrease, Kentucky experienced a 300 percent increase in enforcement evaluations. This increase was attributed to the dedication of the 2019 DRE class and one of Kentucky's DRE instructors. The biggest challenge in 2020 was coping with the COVID-19 issues. Kentucky is still in need of more awareness and accessibility to DREs.

Submitted by Robert Richardson, Kentucky Office of Highway Safety, KY DEC Program State Coordinator

### Louisiana

#### **Narrative**

In July 2020, a new DEC Program state coordinator was appointed following the retirement of the previous coordinator. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic caused the cancellation of Louisiana's annual DRE School. Efforts were made to keep all current DREs in an active status and planning continues for training in 2021.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

New policies were enacted within the Louisiana State Police (LSP) that require a DRE be called out for all serious injury and fatality crashes, as well as any Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) arrest with a low breath alcohol level that does not match the level of impairment observed. This policy was used as a model and was presented to local agencies. The LSP encouraged other law enforcement agencies to adopt the model policy and improve DWI enforcement efforts.

Submitted by Trooper Jared David, Louisiana State Police, LA DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Maine**

#### **Narrative**

The Maine DEC Program remained in good shape in 2020 with more than 100 active DREs, which is consistent with past years. Maine's last DRE School was held in December 2019 with field certification training held in Arizona. Maine conducted a combination of virtual and small classroom trainings around the state to meet the recertification requirements for 2020.

The state maintained a successful DRE callout program supported by the Maine Bureau of Highway Safety. The program reimburses pay for an off-duty DRE when a callout is required and no other DRE is available. The reimbursement also applies to court time related to the evaluation.

#### **Other Training**

Due to COVID-19, Maine DREs had the option of attending approved virtual training sessions to meet recertification requirements in 2020.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

Maine's new phlebotomy program continued to expand in 2020. DRE evaluations showed more DRE forensic samples transitioning from urine to blood.

Submitted by James Lyman, Maine Criminal Justice Academy, ME DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Maryland**

#### **Narrative**

On October 1, 2020, Maryland's previous state coordinator retired, and a new state coordinator transitioned into the DEC Program. Despite the challenging circumstances of 2020, Maryland DREs conducted more enforcement evaluations in the second half of 2020 (780) than they did during the second half of 2019 (637).

Grant funding was secured to support out-of-state DRE certification training. Certification training was conducted in cooperation with the Pennsylvania DUI Association in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The operation, organized by the Pennsylvania DUI Association, provided a realistic training experience for Maryland DRE students and allowed the class to complete their training in a much more efficient manner than previous classes trained in Baltimore. Fifteen students and four instructors participated in the training. All the students were able to complete more than the minimum number of evaluations in a total of four days. The feedback received from the participating students and instructors was overwhelmingly positive.

#### **Other Training**

With the support of the Maryland Highway Safety Office and the organizational efforts of the outgoing state coordinator, Maryland held its first state DRE conference in Ocean City, Maryland, in February 2020. This conference was attended by 133 DREs and featured presentations by local DRE instructors as well as medical and legal experts. Several Virginia DREs also attended the training. The educational conference also served as acceptable DRE in-service training.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

A DRE state trooper assisted the state police crash team with the investigation of a two-vehicle, two-fatality motor vehicle collision. Based on the DRE's observations, a combination of drugs and alcohol was found to be a contributing factor to the crash. A blood specimen was collected from the suspect, which confirmed the presence of alcohol, amphetamine, and benzoylecgonine.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

A Montgomery County Police DRE assisted with the development of the nationally distributed *Cannabis Impairment Detection Workshop* handbook created in a collaborative effort with the support of the Foundation of Advancing Alcohol Responsibility and the National Traffic Law Center. The handbook is intended to serve as a guide to police departments in developing their own cannabis impairment identification training programs.

Submitted by Sergeant Corey Steffy, Maryland State Police, MD DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Massachusetts**

#### **Narrative**

The Massachusetts DEC Program experienced virtually no growth during 2020. Like many other states, this was due mainly to the COVID-19 pandemic. Several DREs elected to not recertify or not complete recertification requirements in 2020.

#### **Other Training**

Several DREs took advantage of IACP-approved online drug training to satisfy the recertification classroom requirement. Three Drug Impaired Driving for Law Enforcement classes were held.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

Massachusetts now has state regional coordinators, allowing for every drug influence evaluation to be reviewed and approved. There were two research projects completed: one on Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN) and another on rebound dilation. Two other research projects are ongoing, one in conjunction with Harvard Medical Addiction Medicine Center on cannabis impairment.

Submitted by Donald Decker (Ret.), Nahant Police Department, Former MA DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Michigan**

#### **Narrative**

Due to the COVID-19 training lockdown, most training was stopped, including the planned April 2020 DRE School and DRE instructor and SFST instructor schools.

Michigan's DRE callout reimbursement program continued throughout 2020 with 113 DRE callout reimbursements. DREs in two counties formed a rotating on-call DRE list to provide 24/7 coverage so all agencies in that county would know how to contact a DRE when needed. The Michigan State Police is also considering a statewide DRE callout process to provide 24/7 coverage for times when a local DRE is not available.

#### **Other Training**

Michigan's TSRPs quickly transitioned from in-person to online training and conducted 3 in-person trainings and 55 online training sessions. Topics presented dealt with various issues related to operating while impaired (OWI) investigation, SFST, courtroom testimony, prosecution of traffic safety crimes and drug-related information. More than 6,000 law enforcement officers, DREs, prosecutors, and other traffic safety professionals attended the TSRP training in 2020. The training provided opportunities for DREs to receive continuing education training for recertification.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

A Michigan DRE was called to assist an officer on a drugged driving arrest. An oral fluid test administered along with the complete DRE evaluation was administered. While talking to the arrestee, the DRE learned the subject was a methamphetamine addict and a military veteran and wanted to receive help with this addiction. The DRE offered suggestions where help could be obtained. Following the evaluation, the DRE contacted the local specialty court about the arrestee. The court agreed this defendant would be a great candidate for their program, and, following the conclusion of the proceedings, the defendant entered the specialty court program and received assistance from several of the agencies recommended by the DRE. The defendant is currently eight months sober, not using drugs or alcohol, and is employed, healthy, and back home.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

Michigan conducted its first four-hour online DRE continuing education training in 2020. The training was opened to out-of-state DREs, prosecutors, and other traffic safety professionals. A Michigan DRE instructor and a South Dakota DRE instructor developed and delivered the training. More than 200 DREs either attended or viewed the recorded version of the training. This training was very positive for the Michigan DEC Program.

Unfortunately, in 2020 as the demand for DRE and ARIDE trained officers increased, the state's numbers of DRE and ARIDE trained officers decreased due to training lockdowns because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Submitted by Michael Harris, Office of Highway Safety Planning, MI DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Minnesota**

#### **Narrative**

Minnesota experienced a change in the DEC Program state coordinator position in 2020 as a result of retirement.

#### **Other Training**

Minnesota offered 38 SFST Update classes and trained 465 students.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

COVID-19 was a significant challenge and prohibited out-of-state travel.

Submitted by Sergeant Tyler Milless, Minnesota State Patrol, MN DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Mississippi**

#### **Narrative**

Mississippi does not have a callout program but instead utilized a state training website that offers contact information for all DREs. DRE information is arranged by highway patrol districts based upon the jurisdiction of the DRE. Additionally, the state began using the SoToxa oral fluid instrument in the field certification training as a pilot program to build upon in the future.

#### **Other Training**

An in-state impaired driving conference was conducted with the assistance of the nonprofit organization Sobriety Trained Officers Representing Mississippi (STORM).

Submitted by Officer Rob Banks, Oxford Police Department, MS DEC Program State Coordinator

### Missouri

#### **Narrative**

In July 2020, a new state coordinator was appointed for the Missouri DEC Program. The new state coordinator worked with IACP to synchronize the DRE records between the IACP and the state. Several DREs had lapsed into an expired status due to the missed submission of recertification paperwork. After several months, the status for all DREs in the state were reviewed and corrected where necessary. From the dedication of the DREs in the state, the number of enforcement evaluations increased from 2019, even with the COVID-19 issues and the limitation of activity placed on officers by some law enforcement agencies.

#### Other Training

Missouri conducted an annual DRE in-service training in July 2020, with a large percentage of the state's DREs attending. Several prosecutors also attended to enhance their knowledge about drug-impaired driving.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

Missouri began researching a Law Enforcement Phlebotomy Program (LEPP) for the state in 2020. The research is in the early stages and looks promising.

Submitted by Robert Paul, Missouri Safety Center, MO DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Montana**

#### **Narrative**

Despite the challenges of COVID-19 in 2020, the Montana DEC Program had a successful year.

Field certification training for the 2019 DRE School took place in January 2020 at the Maricopa County Jail in Phoenix, Arizona. With the addition of the new DREs from the 2020 school, the Montana DEC Program was able to keep up with the rate of attrition and keep a similar number of DREs in the program compared to 2019.

Typically, Montana has funding for one DRE School every other year. However, with the IACP Drug Impaired Driving Enforcement Training (DIDET) service contract, funding was received in 2020 and another DRE School will be in conducted in January 2021 to add more DREs to the program.

#### Other Training

The Montana DEC Program state coordinator conducted two trainings outside of the NHTSA law enforcement training programs. Two presentations were conducted with the freshmen athletes at Montana State University (MSU) in Bozeman regarding drug- and alcohol-impaired driving. Due to COVID-19, other scheduled trainings were cancelled.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

One interesting case in 2020 involved a school bus driver in Billings, Montana. Twenty-nine middle school students were riding the bus to school and had to text and call their parents due to the bus operator's driving. Students reported the driver was hitting street curbs and driving off the roadway. The bus driver was investigated and subsequently arrested for DUI and a DRE was called to do an evaluation. After the evaluation was performed, the DRE determined the driver was under the influence of CNS depressants, CNS stimulants, and cannabis. The driver was charged with DUI drugs and 29 counts of felony criminal child endangerment for each of the students riding on the bus.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

One significant accomplishment for 2020 was the Montana DEC Program being awarded a Drug Impaired Driving Enforcement Training (DIDET) funding contract for one DRE School and five ARIDE training classes. Montana has a significant problem with impaired driving and the additional funding from the DIDET contract will help combat this problem.

COVID-19 was a significant challenge in 2020 for conducting training and DRE evaluations. One upcoming challenge is marijuana legalization. In 2020, Montana voters passed a ballot initiative for the legalization of recreational marijuana. The Montana DEC Program is preparing and gearing up for the impaired driving incidents that are sure to come with marijuana legalization.

Submitted by Sergeant Doug Samuelson, Montana Highway Patrol, MT DEC Program State Coordinator

### Nebraska

#### **Narrative**

A new state coordinator assumed the role of Nebraska DEC Program state coordinator in February 2020 and worked with the state's training coordinator to continue to enhance Nebraska's DEC Program.

In 2020, while facing the COVID-19 issues, Nebraska certified new DRE officers and conducted classes to train SFST and ARIDE practitioners. Classes were audited by the state SFST training coordinator. The Omaha Police Department Academy, Nebraska State Patrol Academy, and Sarpy, Douglas, and LaVista Academy added a "Drugged Driving" session into the basic SFST training class.

#### **Other Training**

In February, the Nebraska Department of Transportation Highway Safety Office sponsored a DRE recertification/update training. More than 100 attendees completed the eight-hour training session. DREs from two law enforcement agencies attended the IACP Drugs, Alcohol, and Impaired Driving conference held virtually in August 2020.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

The Nebraska Supreme Court heard a case that resulted in the successful conviction of the defendant. A DRE utilized the DRE protocol without a search warrant and made an arrest for DUI. After an evidentiary breath alcohol test showed no alcohol present, the DRE obtained consent for a urine test. The Nebraska State Patrol crime laboratory confirmed the metabolite for tetrahydrocannabinol in the urine sample. During the initial trial, the county court denied the motion to suppress the urine sample results holding that the defendant "freely, voluntarily, and intelligently" gave consent by signing the consent form. At trial, the defendant admitted to smoking marijuana prior to driving on the day of the stop. The jury found the defendant guilty on all charges, which included driving under the influence, possession of one ounce or less of marijuana, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

During 2020, Nebraska was able to continue the DEC Program despite COVID-19 challenges. Nebraska continued offering training classes to aid in recruitment of future DRE candidates at all academies at the highest levels without lowering or compromising the curriculum standards, all while working within the parameters set by COVID-19 protocols. However, due to the severity of the ongoing pandemic and restrictions, Nebraska was unable to conduct any DRE, DRE Instructor, DITEP, or Phlebotomy classes. Recruiting officers with sufficient experience for entry into the DEC Program is a current a challenge.

Submitted by Christie Nguyen, Nebraska Department of Transportation, NE DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Nevada**

#### **Narrative**

The year 2020 was challenging for the Nevada DEC Program. Utilizing funding from the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA)/Foundations for Advancing Alcohol Reduction (FAAR), Nevada was able to provide one Green Lab training class that was attended by 32 DREs.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, two scheduled DRE Schools were cancelled. The restrictions also impacted DREs in need of recertification evaluations and training to fulfill recertification requirements, and many certifications subsequently lapsed.

Submitted by Rob Honea, Nevada Department of Public Safety, NV DEC Program State Coordinator

### **New Hampshire**

#### **Narrative**

New Hampshire was fortunate to have continued support from the Office of Highway Safety (OHS) in 2020. New Hampshire was also fortunate to have received supplemental grant funding from GHSA to administer six additional ARIDE classes in addition to the six scheduled with New Hampshire OHS funding. While these classes had to be postponed due to the pandemic, the GHSA funding has been extended through 2021. The ARIDE trainings will be scheduled as soon as the amended grant agreement is approved and accepted by the state. DRE classes should resume by the spring of 2021 although a field certification site remains to be determined. New Hampshire has seen a reduction in the number of DRE/DRE instructors due to retirements, promotions, and inactivity.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, New Hampshire's scheduled ARIDE training, DRE School, and DRE Instructor School were cancelled. Travel was prohibited, and facilities utilized for training purposes were closed or not available due to COVID-19 protocols. The COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted the number of DRE evaluations completed in 2020.

Submitted by Sergeant Christopher Hutchins, New Hampshire Division of Liquor Enforcement, NH DEC Program State Coordinator

### **New Jersey**

#### **Narrative**

New Jersey successfully transitioned to using a tablet system to record evaluations in lieu of the paper facesheet. Ninety percent of the state's DREs were trained on the tablet and the software by the end of 2020. Three county callout programs were developed in 2020, which brought the total number of counties with a callout program to 12 of the 21 counties.

#### **Other Training**

The DEC Program formed a partnership with New Jersey Center for Addiction Responses and Enforcement Strategies (NJ CARES), which is a state program that aids individuals suffering from drug addiction and educates professionals in drug abuse. NJ CARES law enforcement actively links individuals with substance use disorder to treatment and/or recovery services. This training enhances the DRE's knowledge regarding drug abuse but, more importantly, gives the DREs the tools needed to properly engage with these individuals. During the training, the DREs are instructed on how to properly talk to these individuals, show compassion, treat them with respect, and dispel stereotypes.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

The New Jersey Supreme Court case, *State v. Olenowski*, will likely be decided in the fall of 2021. A Judge (Special Master) was appointed by the New Jersey Supreme Court Justices after oral arguments were heard. The Special Master will determine the scientific reliability of the DRE 12-step process after the trial concludes.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

The COVID-19 pandemic was the major challenge in 2020 for New Jersey. Webinars and other virtual training platforms were used to train DREs until it was deemed safe to conduct in-person training.

Submitted by Sergeant Michael Gibson, New Jersey Technology Campus, NJ DEC Program State Coordinator

### **New Mexico**

#### **Narrative**

The coronavirus pandemic caused an immense disruption to the growth of the DEC Program in New Mexico. Approximately one week before a planned DRE School, as the pandemic continued and additional meeting restrictions were implemented in the state, the school was cancelled. The state coordinator continued to develop plans in 2021 to enhance the number of both DREs and DRE instructors.

#### **Other Training**

Due to state regulations implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, only one DRE recertification class was conducted during the year. Webinar trainings, available through various resources such as the National Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) Program and the National TSRP Program, were approved for DREs not attending the in-person recertification class. In addition, virtual training on the National DRE Data System was provided to all New Mexico DREs. Virtual training about the New Mexico DEC Program was provided to MADD New Mexico.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

The COVID-19 pandemic provided the biggest challenge to the DEC Program in New Mexico. The state suffered a loss of DREs through attrition as traditionally seen each year. However, the lack of a DRE School to fill this loss was catastrophic to the program. The New Mexico DEC Program will continue to rebuild and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, and work will continue with all impaired driving enforcement stakeholders to help deter drugged driving.

Submitted by Lieutenant Charlie Files, Los Lunas Police Department, NM DEC Program State Coordinator

### **New York**

#### **Narrative**

In 2020, a DRE callout smartphone app was designed and implemented. This callout app allows all law enforcement throughout New York State to reach a DRE in a timely manner. It also allows for officers to register for upcoming trainings and to receive statewide training notifications. The Governor's Traffic Safety Committee continued to provide funding to the Special Traffic Options Program for Driving While Impaired Special Traffic Options Program for Driving While Impaired (STOP DWI) Foundation to assist with reimbursing agencies for DRE callouts.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

2020 was a challenging year, particularly regarding field certifications. At the time of the DRE School in September, New York was advised that travel to Jacksonville, Florida, would not be approved. Pennsylvania offered the use of a facility, and all DRE candidates were able to complete their required evaluations.

Submitted by Renee Borden, New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, NY DEC Program State Coordinator

### **North Carolina**

#### **Narrative**

In October, a new DEC Program state coordinator was appointed following the promotion of the former coordinator.

North Carolina is in the process of implementing SFST training into the Basic Law Enforcement Training for new officers. This effort is through a collaboration with the North Carolina Justice Academy and will ensure that all newly sworn law enforcement officers have the training and tools to be effective in DWI enforcement.

Through funding awarded through the Governor's Highway Safety Office program, North Carolina was able to continue the DRE callout system. The system has proven very useful in connecting officers with a DRE when they do not have one in their area to assist with investigations.

#### **Other Training**

Through a collaboration with the North Carolina Conference of District Attorneys, DRE instructors participated in three regional DWI training events that were directed toward law enforcement officers and prosecutors. These events not only helped to refine detection and apprehension capabilities, but also helped officers better develop their skills in preparing and presenting their impaired driving cases in court.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

North Carolina continued to utilize an in-state site that allows for completion of field certification evaluations in an orderly and expedient manner. In addition to assisting with providing volunteers, the facility also helps the community by providing counseling, drug rehabilitation, employment assistance, housing, and basic needs of the volunteers.

North Carolina continued to seek expansion of the DEC Program by increasing the number of ARIDE trainings and promotion of the DEC Program to expand the number of applicants applying to become DREs.

Submitted by Timothy Hanks, NC Department of Health and Human Services, NC DEC Program State Coordinator

### **North Dakota**

#### **Narrative**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, North Dakota postponed field certifications for a DRE School conducted in 2020. North Dakota continued to utilize a statewide DRE callout program funded through the North Dakota Department of Transportation Highway Safety Office. Many local agencies have individual policies to allow and reimburse DREs when called out to conduct a drug influence evaluation.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

North Dakota began the development of an oral fluid field screening device pilot program. A committee was identified and began discussing the pilot program parameters and policy. North Dakota also began creating SFST refresher training videos that can be viewed by local law enforcement and prosecuting attorneys in response to the COVID-19 travel and group setting restrictions.

Submitted by Trooper Tarek Chase, North Dakota Highway Patrol, ND DEC Program State Coordinator

### Ohio

#### **Narrative**

The Ohio DEC Program began 2020 with ambitious plans, but health and safety were paramount for DRE officers and the communities they served during the challenging times. However, Ohio DREs continued working to support the law enforcement community and responded to 240 DRE callouts in 2020.

#### **Other Training**

In 2020, the Ohio DEC Program provided training in partnership with the state's TSRPs. More than 200 law enforcement officers received training designed to enhance report writing and courtroom testimony skills. The training program received tremendous positive feedback and planned expansion of these efforts in the coming years is anticipated.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

Despite the issues related to COVID-19, Ohio DREs never stopped doing evaluations, never stopped answering calls for service, never stopped supporting the law enforcement community, and never stopped protecting their communities with the removal of impaired drivers from the roadway. More than 400 enforcement evaluations were conducted, even during the COVID-19 pandemic. This is a testament to the resolve of the Ohio DEC Program and the DRE officers and departments who support the mission of the DEC Program.

Submitted by Sergeant Sam Criswell, Ohio State Highway Patrol, OH DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Oklahoma**

#### **Narrative**

This was a challenging year for the Oklahoma DEC Program. COVID-19 created a unique working environment, slowing training and DRE evaluations. Oklahoma DRE instructors branched out into additional training environments allowing access to a broad market of stakeholders across the state. Oklahoma began easing training and travel restrictions in the fall of 2020, and this allowed other states to travel to Oklahoma to complete the field certification phase of their DRE training.

#### **Other Training**

The Oklahoma DEC Program partnered with the Oklahoma Safety Council, American Auto Association (AAA), and Oklahoma Challenge. These programs facilitated access to an ever-expanding audience, including high school students, and permitted the offering of drugged driving courses in high schools. Oklahoma also provided training for county-level assistant district attorneys and judges across the state.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

Oklahoma DREs are increasingly being used in fatality and serious injury collisions, either as part of a crash team or due to the shared knowledge about DREs and the services they provide. Over the past year, the state increased the number of DREs responding to fatality and serious injury collisions by 34 percent. When fully implemented, the program will allow for more accurate tracking of impaired driving collisions. In addition, work began on a goal in the Oklahoma Strategic Plan to implement a statewide on-call DRE callout system. The goal is to have a callout system in place by the start of FY22.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

Oklahoma is expanding its ability to assist other states by hosting field certification training in two locations. Working closely with both the Oklahoma and Cleveland County detention centers, future certification sites are under development.

Submitted by Master Sergeant David Roberts, Oklahoma City Police Department, OK DEC Program State Coordinator

### Oregon

#### **Narrative**

Due to COVID-19, statewide forest fires, and civil unrest issues in the state, 2020 was a challenging year for the Oregon DEC Program. COVID-19 caused the cancellation of Oregon's annual impaired driving conference and the normally scheduled annual DRE in-service event. The cancellation of the two events restricted many DREs from obtaining their necessary training hours needed for recertification. However, with the assistance of the state's TSRP and other organizations, numerous virtual webinars were offered to the state's DREs to assist them in fulfilling the training hour requirements, though the process required additional time. Also due to COVID-19, many law enforcement agencies were hesitant in conducting in-custody arrests, which included DUI. The reduction in DUI arrests resulted in fewer requests for DRE evaluations and fewer opportunities for DREs to obtain their instructor observed evaluation for recertification.

An Operation Trucker Check (OTC), utilizing DREs and Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) inspectors, was cancelled due to statewide forest fires. Plans are underway to reschedule the event in 2021.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

In 2020, a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) driver was reported driving northbound in the southbound lanes of Interstate 5 south of Eugene, Oregon. The driver continued traveling the wrong way for more than 10 miles, even after several attempts to stop the vehicle. The CMV eventually collided with a southbound CMV and caught fire. The driver attempted to flee the scene and was apprehended. A DRE was called to investigate the offending driver and determined the driver was impaired by a CNS stimulant. Toxicology confirmed the presence of methamphetamine in the driver's system.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

The Oregon DEC Program continued its partnership with the Oregon Department of Transportation maintaining a statewide DRE callout system and reimbursing DREs for overtime when responding to a DRE call while off duty. More than 40 percent of the Oregon DRE enforcement evaluations in 2020 were the result of the DRE callout system.

The Oregon DEC Program also continued its DRE Steering Committee, which assisted in identifying new DRE candidates, DRE School dates, and potential DRE instructors.

Submitted by Sergeant Timothy Plummer, Oregon State Police, OR DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Pennsylvania**

#### **Narrative**

The Pennsylvania DEC Program continued its growth and success notwithstanding the COVID-19 pandemic. All enforcement in the state was impacted with social distancing and avoidance of face-to-face contact, yet enforcement evaluations increased in Pennsylvania. For the first time, there were eight DREs in Pennsylvania that conducted 50 or more enforcement evaluations.

#### **Other Training**

In 2020, the Philadelphia field certification site was opened to outside states. Students from New York, Maryland, and Delaware attended DRE certification training in Philadelphia. The location afforded a great learning environment as well as an excellent public outreach program.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

DREs assisted with investigations of eight fatal crashes in which drug use was suspected. In another case, a DRE identified an individual who was suffering from a medical condition and alerted family members so that medical attention could be offered. The actions of the arresting officer and DRE prevented this from becoming a more serious situation, and both officers were recognized by their agencies.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

On average, each Pennsylvania DRE conducts 10 evaluations each year. This number reflects the commitment of the Pennsylvania officers trained as DREs.

Submitted by Dave Andrascik, Pennsylvania DUI Association, PA DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Rhode Island**

#### **Narrative**

COVID-19 resulted in a decrease in DUI enforcement in 2020. During the year, four officers attended DRE training in Massachusetts and completed field certifications in Phoenix, Arizona. The state coordinator conducted a full review of the DEC Program and staffing was decreased due to promotions, transfers, and a lack of productivity. Due to COVID-19 issues, there was a reduction in enforcement patrol activity statewide.

Rhode Island continued the use of a consistent and successful DRE callout program. A list of DREs was made available to each police department's communication center and callouts followed a strict set of guidelines. Callouts are reimbursed by the Highway Safety Office as part of the DEC Program grant. As an additional step of support for the DEC Program, PBTs were provided for each DRE.

The Highway Safety Office, Rhode Island Police Chiefs Association, Department of Health, and many other traditional and nontraditional impaired driving prevention partners actively support the state's DEC Program. As part of this partnership, departments with DREs are required to assign DREs to the Driver Sober Campaigns and for any Breath Alcohol Testing (BAT) vehicle deployments.

#### **Other Training**

Many Rhode Island DREs partnered with AAA Insurance to teach in-person and virtual marijuana awareness sessions. The classes were provided to both high school students and community groups. DREs participated in webinars, town hall meetings, Traffic Safety Coalition sessions, "Know Your Limit" college presentations, and conducted SFST training. DREs actively assisted at all SFST basic recruit and in-service refresher

trainings. DREs assisted the Health Department by conducting a "drug block" at in-service refresher training for the 1,500 SFST officers state-wide.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

Unfortunately, toxicology testing limitations had an adverse impact on DRE cases. In one instance, a DRE's opinion, was not supported by the toxicology. Because of the limitations, a judge did not find in favor of the DRE's opinion. In other cases, toxicology limitations have led to case dispositions of pleas or dismissals and few trials.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

In 2020, Rhode Island had a 20 percent decrease in the total number of arrests for impaired driving compared to 2019. However, the DEC Program had an increase in the number of DRE evaluations in the first six months of 10 percent. Unfortunately, suspected impaired drivers frequently do not submit to chemical tests and do not participate in DRE evaluations. Rhode Island's refusal rate for forensic testing was about 68 percent. The high number of forensic testing refusals has had a direct impact on the state's overall DUI conviction rate.

To supplement the DEC Program, the state applied and was awarded supplemental funding through the DIDET program. In 2020, several ARIDE classes were conducted, and a DRE class is scheduled for February 2021.

The Rhode Island State Police developed a Highway Safety Division, and all members are DREs, including the supervisors. Thirty DREs will participate in DRE Tablet training.

Submitted by Richard Sullivan, Law Enforcement HS Training Coordinator, RI DEC Program State Coordinator

### **South Carolina**

#### **Narrative**

The South Carolina DEC Program had a successful year in 2020 despite COVID-19. In 2020, the DEC Program placed an emphasis on providing training to agencies with the highest number of serious injury and fatal crashes. South Carolina appointed a new DEC Program state coordinator in 2020. The state was able to successfully host the DRE field certification training in state at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

#### Other Training

The South Carolina DEC Program sponsored 22 DREs to attend the IACP Virtual DAID Conference. Members of the DEC Program were able to participate in numerous virtual trainings offered by other state DEC Programs and Highway Safety Offices.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

In 2020, the South Carolina DEC Program began a new practice in several counties where DREs were able obtain search warrants to collect left-over blood from medical diagnostics to prosecute impaired driving cases. Previously, only medical laboratory results could be used.

Submitted by Geoffrey Hossack, South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy, SC DEC Program State Coordinator

### **South Dakota**

#### **Narrative**

The 2020 South Dakota DRE School completed field certifications in Jacksonville, Florida. Shortly after returning from field certification training, the COVID-19 pandemic restricted the number of DRE evaluation opportunities for the new DREs.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

Some agencies had stricter COVID-19 restrictions than others, thus making it difficult for some DREs to conduct evaluations. South Dakota voted to legalize medical marijuana and recreational marijuana in the November 2020 election, which will undoubtably create challenges for the state and the need for additional trained officers.

Submitted by Sergeant Isaac Kurtz, South Dakota Highway Patrol, SD DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Tennessee**

#### **Narrative**

The DEC Program in Tennessee met challenges in 2020 with optimism and was productive despite roadblocks that arose throughout the year. The program managed to see an increase in the number of DREs statewide. The program strived to ensure DREs had ample opportunities to recertify, although it meant meeting in smaller groups due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

#### **Other Training**

Tennessee State Resource Prosecutors, in partnership with the Southern School of Optometry, were able to host the "20/20" class in Memphis. They completed training for 38 DREs and 14 DUI Prosecutors. This class teaches DREs and prosecutors the "Physiology of Eye Movements and Impairment," which is a critical component of effective evaluation of impairment.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

One of the biggest challenges was the inability of the DRE candidates to travel to Jacksonville, Florida, for field certification evaluations due to COVID-19 restrictions. Instead, the program partnered with one of the largest incarceration facilities in Rutherford County to complete certification for the DRE students. While this was not the preferred location for evaluations, it was sufficient to allow DRE students to meet the certification requirement.

Submitted by Tony Burnett, Tennessee Highway Safety Office, TN DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Texas**

#### **Narrative**

Three DRE Schools were scheduled in 2020; however, all DRE Schools were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, seventeen ARIDE courses were cancelled along with four in-person DITEP courses. Instead, four DITEP courses held were conducted in a virtual environment as a one-day course. Most training was suspended for safety precautions. The DEC Program state coordinator, with assistance of three DRE instructors, developed a hybrid DRE Recertification Course consisting of a four-hour virtual section and a shortened in-person training session for recertifying DREs. The modified course began in September and was presented to DRE instructors in need of recertification.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

A Harris County Sheriff's Office DRE instructor and agency coordinator received the "Difference Maker Award" presented by the Texas Impaired Driving Task Force. Her efforts were recognized for her ongoing commitment to removing impaired drivers from Texas roadways and her history of mentoring other DREs. Two retired DREs were recognized by the DRE Section and designated as DRE Emeritus during the annual IACP DAID Conference.

Submitted by Cecelia Marquart, Sam Houston State University, TX DEC Program State Coordinator

### Utah

#### **Narrative**

Due to COVID-19, the DRE field certification process was extended for the 2020 DRE School, and work continued for completing the required field certifications.

#### Other Training

SFST, ARIDE, and breath testing training was conducted for several prosecutor's offices around the state. The Utah phlebotomy program remained strong in 2020 certifying more than 30 new police officer phlebotomists.

Submitted by Sergeant Jared Cornia, Utah Highway Patrol, UT DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Vermont**

#### **Narrative**

Enforcement evaluations conducted in 2020 increased overall by 10 percent from 2019. The Vermont statewide DRE callout alert system was utilized by partner agencies 279 times in 2020.

#### **Other Training**

Fourteen DREs attended the Annual IACP DAID Conference in August. The Vermont DEC Program was also able to take advantage of several impaired driving webinars and virtual training sessions held across the country during 2020.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

DREs were involved in a multi-crash investigation on I-89, after a vehicle was reported to be driving more than 100 mph and crashed into a tractor trailer. The subject continued driving at a high rate of speed before crashing into the back of a box truck a few miles later. When officers arrived on-scene, the subject was still flooring the accelerator as he tried to free his entangled vehicle from the box truck. The subsequent drug influence evaluation showed gross impairment and toxicology, revealing three drug categories present. Interestingly, the operator in this case had an active criminal case for being the driver of a 2019 fatal crash that killed his passenger. That fatal incident occurred on the same highway about 50 miles south of this event.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

The Vermont Alert regional callout system has made DREs available to all agencies and provides notifications to nearby DREs to facilitate a timely response.

Submitted by John Flannigan, Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council, VT DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Virginia**

#### **Narrative**

The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles worked to maintain and recertify the Commonwealth's 22 DREs while the DEC Program state coordinator position was vacant from January until mid-August in 2020. The DREs cover most of the Commonwealth and represent Amherst, Roanoke, Henrico, Fairfax, and Salem counties; Suffolk, Newport News, Virginia Beach and Chesapeake cities; and the town of Blacksburg, along with six Virginia State Police troopers. Seven of these DREs are certified instructors, and one of the seven was certified in 2020. Six Virginia DREs attended the 2020 IACP DAID Conference August 6–8, 2020.

#### **Other Training**

A one-day DUID for Prosecutors and Law Enforcement training, which focuses on recognizing the drugged driver and blood testing issues, was offered five times in 2020.

Submitted by Melanie Stokes, Virginia Highway Safety Office, VA DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Washington**

#### **Narrative**

Due to COVID-19, most trainings were cancelled during the first half of 2020. Washington's first DRE School in three years was tentatively planned for January 2021 utilizing IACP DIDET funding. The number of DREs in Washington continued to decrease in 2020, dropping from 160 in 2019 to 138 in 2020. As new DREs are trained and recertified, the statewide numbers are expected to increase in future years.

#### **Other Training**

Washington once again began conducting DITEP classes in 2020, and requests have been received to conduct additional classes in 2021.

#### **Interesting Cases Involving DRE Investigations**

In March 2020, the Washington State Patrol experienced a line-of-duty death of a trooper deploying a pursuit intervention tool to end the chase of a robbery suspect. Upon apprehension, the state DRE callout system was used, and two DREs from allied agencies responded to contact the suspect. The suspect refused the drug evaluation; however, the DREs were able to identify important indicators of drug impairment to aid detectives in securing a search warrant for blood from the suspect.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

In 2020, Washington implemented a new DRE text-based callout system. Due to the new system, Washington experienced a dramatic increase in calls for DREs as education and awareness have increased. Since implementing the system, DRE responses increased from 5 percent to 70 percent. Future goals include encouraging law enforcement agencies to adopt policies that require a DRE to respond to fatality and felony collision investigations.

Submitted by Sergeant Brock Haner, Washington State Patrol, WA DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Wisconsin**

#### **Narrative**

COVID-19 had a major impact in the state in 2020. Due to class size limitations on the number of students allowed in the DRE Schools, only half the normal number of DREs were certified. COVID-19 and the civil unrest protests were major factors limiting DREs from performing enforcement evaluations and conducting many regular trainings.

#### **Other Training**

In 2020, 29 eight-hour drug information classes were offered throughout the state, training a total of 694 officers.

Submitted by Officer Steve Krejci, Milwaukee Police Department, WI DEC Program State Coordinator

### **Wyoming**

#### **Narrative**

Wyoming continued to provide DRE callout overtime for law enforcement agencies in 2020. In 2020, Wyoming offered ARIDE classes covering every district in the state. Wyoming continued to plan DUI Task Force events for when and if events could be held.

#### **Other Training**

Due to COVID-19, additional online training was identified for DREs to utilize for recertification. Several Identifying Drug-Impaired Driver classes were offered to Port of Entry officers. The DEC Program state coordinator assisted with a Prosecuting the Drug-Impaired Driver class, and several drug impairment awareness classes were held for the public.

#### **Accomplishments and Challenges**

COVID-19 had a direct impact on the growth of the Wyoming DEC Program in 2020, as agencies were reluctant to send officers to any training due to the pandemic. The planned 2020 DRE School had to be rescheduled from May to September and caused grant funding issues. The Wyoming Highway Safety Office continued to support the program and provided funding in FY21 to send the students to field certification training. Overall, class numbers decreased to half to maintain healthy social distancing requirements. Additionally, the Wyoming DEC Program sustained a decline in DRE recertifications as officers left law enforcement.

Submitted by Sergeant Duane Ellis, Wyoming Highway Patrol, WY DEC Program State Coordinator

## **Canada DECP Totals**

CURRENT DRES
Number of certified DREs1,389
Number of DRE instructors 175
EVALUATIONS
Number of enforcement evaluations5,948
Number of training evaluations1,072
Total number of evaluations7,020
DRUG CATEGORY (DRE'S OPINION)
Depressants
Stimulants
Hallucinogens24
Dissociative Anesthetics59
Narcotic Analgesics 1,674
Inhalants8
<b>Cannabis</b>
POLY DRUGS USE
Total number1,928

### OTHER

Alcohol impairment only25
Medical impairment104
Opinion of not impaired807
Tox found no drugs Pending
Toxicology refused223
DRE TRAINING
Number of DRE schools
Number of students91
Number of DRE instructor schools
Number of students2
Number of DRE recertification classes12
SFST TRAINING
Number of SFST classes39
Number of students trained634
Number of SFST Instructor classes
Number of students

#### **Narrative**

Due to restrictions of COVID- 19, there was a significant decrease in DREs trained in Canada. There were no DRE schools conducted after March of 2020. The number of certified DREs also decreased in 2020 from officer attrition and recertification difficulties due to the pandemic. However, Canada DREs completed 42% more DRE evaluations in 2020 than the previous year, the highest number conducted. This continues a trend since 2017 with significant statistical increases in the number of evaluations each year. Contrary to previous beliefs, this increase in evaluations does not appear to be directly related to cannabis legalization in 2018. This year, DREs opined cannabis impairment in approximately 20% of DRE evaluations, a slight decrease from 2019, and statistically consistent with the amount of cannabis-impaired opinions pre-legalization.

Additional research continues in identifying new blood drug concentration offenses for impaired driving enforcement. In 2020, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Forensic Laboratory processed 516 blood samples pursuant to this effort.

Canada anticipates further impacts from COVID-19 on DRE/SFST training and certifications in 2021.

Submitted by Corporal Dave Botham, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Canadian DEC Program National Coordinator.

# **DRE Section and TAP Regional Representatives**

#### **WESTERN REGION**

Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming [Includes Canadian Provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan]

**TAP Representative:** Captain Daven Byrd, Arizona Department of Public Safety; (602) 223-2603; dbyrd@azdps.gov

**DRE Section Representative:** Sergeant Glen Glaser, California Highway Patrol; California DRE State Coordinator; (916) 843-4360; *gglaser@chp.ca.gov* 

#### **CENTRAL REGION**

Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, and Wisconsin [Includes Canadian Provinces of Manitoba and Ontario].

**TAP Representative:** Lieutenant Charles Files, Los Lunas, New Mexico, Police Department; New Mexico DRE State Coordinator; (505) 980-2803; *cfiles@nmdre.org* 

**DRE Section Representative:** Sergeant Paul Batcheller, Iowa City, Iowa, Police Department; (319) 356-5276; paul-batcheller@iowa-city.org

#### **EASTERN REGION**

Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia [Includes Canadian Provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland]

**TAP Representative:** Sergeant Don Decker, Nahant, Massachusetts, Police Department; Massachusetts DRE State Coordinator; (781) 842-3422; *djdecker57@verizon.net* 

**DRE Section Representative:** Officer Frank Enko, Baltimore County, Maryland, Police Department; (410) 887-5678; fenko@baltimorecountymd.gov

