



2023 ANNUAL

NEW YORK STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT RECOGNITION EVENT

PRESENTED BY:



Governor's Traffic
Safety Committee

State
Police

Division of Criminal
Justice Services

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Mothers Against Drunk Driving New York, STOP-DWI and The Governor's Traffic Safety Committee Honors Law Enforcement

Albany, New York - Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) New York, STOP-DWI and The Governor's Traffic Safety Committee hosted their Annual Law Enforcement Recognition Event on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at the Albany Capital Center. This event served as an opportunity to recognize and honor the great work of Law Enforcement professionals and their Law Enforcement agencies from New York who have shown outstanding dedication to DWI enforcement, prosecution, and education in 2022. Over 125 awards were distributed and over 310 individuals were in attendance to recognize and thank those who are working so hard to keep our streets safe from the horrors of drunk and drugged driving.

Several Lifetime Achievement Awards were distributed, as well as the second Maureen McCormick Leader of Excellence Lifetime Achievement Award. This award was created in honor of Suffolk County Special Assistant District Attorney Maureen McCormick in 2022. These awards recognize the contribution for the lifetime commitment to keeping the roads of New York safe and for protecting our communities from the 100% preventable crimes of impaired driving.

The ***Maureen McCormick Leader of Excellence Lifetime Achievement Award*** was presented to **Nassau County Police Department (NCPD) Inspector Gustave E. Kalin II**. It was during his tenure as the Administrative Supervisor of the Central Testing Section (CTS) of the NCPD. CTS performs all of the DWI breath testing for the NCPD. He held that position from 1997 until his promotion in 2019. It was clear from my first encounter with Gus that he was different. He took great pride in the excellence and professionalism of CTS but he also had a genuine interest in improving the system where he could (and took some grief for it). As a direct result of the partnership between Gus and NCPD with the Vehicular Crimes Bureau in NCDA, Nassau County went from being ranked 28th in top count DWI convictions in 2005 to between 4th and 6th while Gus was the Supervisor. And Nassau was first for convictions in large counties. He has lectured to more than 80,000 students, teachers and parents through the

District Attorney's Choices & Consequences program. During his lectures, the audience is captivated by his stories of personal tragedy brought about by senseless drunk driving. He was also selected by the Nassau County Police Commissioner to lecture on the dangers of opiate abuse. For over two decades he served at the Nassau County Police Academy as an SFST instructor. Inspector Gustave Kalin is retiring this year after 38 years with the Nassau County Police Department.

Lifetime Achievement Recipients

Retired First Sergeant Tracy Mance – Albany County STOP-DWI

Ret. First Sergeant Tracy Mance, has been with the Albany County Sheriff's Department for over 20 years, and in those 20 years she has dedicated the majority of her career to the Stop DWI program. Tracy wisdom and knowledge has been passed down to not only her peers but also the youth community. She has dedicated much time to education our youth and trying to get young peers to make smart choices to prevent horrible tragedies from happening. She is known from all over for the CHOICES program. The program brought many high school students along with adults to a little retired church that was reconstructed into an educational platform. The walls lined with victims' pictures and stories. A statue of shoes of victims of DWI crashes. And coffins, the end game for innocent victims. Along with the visual statements, the students were educated by Tracy. Tracy explained the dangers of impairment, how to avoid it and how to prepare. The way that Tracy could reach these students is remarkable. They would actually participate, ask questions and they felt comfortable enough to discuss things that were happening in their own lives. Tracy would invite victims' families to come and speak as well. Tracy was able to reach so many through this program. This shows just one of the qualities that Tracy has brought to the Program. Along with the CHOICES program Tracy still is involved in the Victim Impact Panels.

Special Programs Coordinator Michele James – St. Lawrence County STOP-DWI

Michele James has been with St. Lawrence Traffic Safety and STOP-DWI for 23 years. Her commitment has been above and beyond her job description. To name a few, Michele runs her own one on one VIP, in school trainings and mock crashes. She also developed a "Let's Not Meet by Accident" program which is a school focused training with students, law enforcement and hospital personnel. This program runs the student through the gambit of how extreme their impaired driving decisions can be, by visiting and hearing from the professionals in the real environments at the rescue squad, hospital emergency department and county morgue. Michele's accomplishments in St. Lawrence County are only a part of her commitment to keep our roadways safe in New York State. Over the years Michele has served in many capacities in STOP-DWI at the state level. Most recently Michele was the lead in developing and implementing the William T. and Dorothy Smith Training Institute for new and current STOP-DWI Coordinators and their staff. This training institute walks through all phases of STOP-DWI in New York. Her years of work and knowledge are now documented in a setting to be passed on and shared with others.

Police Officer Brian McMurray – Suffolk County Police Department

Police Officer Brian McMurray began his law enforcement career in 1995 and has been an invaluable asset in keeping the roadways of New York safe ever since. As a member of the Suffolk County Police Department, Highway Patrol Bureau, Selective Alcohol Fatality Enforcement (SAFE) Team, he has made over 900 arrests for DWI/DWAI. His testimony at numerous criminal trials over the years, including several high-profile cases, led to the successful prosecution of intoxicated and impaired drivers, many of whom received lengthy prison terms. He is the prior recipient of the MADD Excellence in DWI Enforcement Award in addition to the MADD Campaign to Eliminate Drunk Driving Team Award as a member of the SCPD SAFE Team. His contribution to the highway safety effort goes well beyond his individual DWI enforcement. Since 2006, he has been directly involved in the instruction of DWI detection and standardized field sobriety tests to all newly appointed Suffolk County Police academy recruits in addition to in-service police officers. Certified as a Drug Recognition Expert in 2011 and subsequently as a DRE

instructor in 2015, he has taught at numerous ARIDE and DRE schools throughout New York state including a school held in Suffolk County during June 2022 where he acted as course manager. Over the years, he has selflessly traveled outside of New York to attend DRE conferences and symposiums in addition to instructing during field certification in Pennsylvania and Florida for newly trained DREs. PO McMurray is highly respected both within and outside the law enforcement community and has established close working relationships with members of STOP-DWI New York, MADD New York and the NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. In 2021 he was appointed to the NYS DRE TAP advisory board which meets to ensure the ongoing success of the NYS DRE program. PO McMurray's individual efforts over the past 28 years, coupled with the knowledge which he has imparted on countless other police officers involved in the highway safety effort, has undoubtedly led to safer roadways for the residents of New York state.

In addition to our Leader of Excellence and Lifetime Achievement Awards, we presented awards in the following categories: 2022 Top State Arresting Officers, Recognition of Excellence – Non-Enforcement Awards, DRE Enforcement Awards, Recognition of Excellence Awards, Impaired Driving Enforcement Unit Recognition Awards, Department of the Year Awards. The recipients of these awards represent departments and agencies from across New York State.

Our Law Enforcement keeps us safe in many ways, including on the roadways. They put themselves in danger on a daily basis - and some pay the ultimate price. Forty-four percent of the officers killed in the line of duty were killed in traffic crashes. That's why we support these heroes who keep our roads safe not just today but every day. Congratulations to all the recipients!

About Mothers Against Drunk Driving

Founded in 1980 by a mother whose daughter was killed by a drunk driver, Mothers Against Drunk Driving® (MADD) is the nation's largest nonprofit working to end drunk driving, help fight drugged driving, support the victims of these violent crimes and prevent underage drinking. MADD has helped to save more than 400,000 lives, reduce drunk driving deaths by more than 50 percent and promote designating a non-drinking driver. MADD has provided supportive services to nearly one million drunk and drugged driving victims and survivors at no charge through local victim advocates and the 24-Hour Victim Help Line 1-877-MADD-HELP. Learn more at www.madd.org/ny.

About STOP-DWI New York

The mission of New York's STOP-DWI program is to empower and coordinate local efforts to reduce alcohol and other drug-related traffic crashes within the context of a comprehensive and financially self-sustaining statewide alcohol and highway safety program. The program's goal is to achieve these reductions through the creation and funding of programs relating to enforcement, prosecution, probation, rehabilitation, public information, education, and administration. Learn more at www.stopdwi.org.

About The Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

The New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee (GTSC) coordinates traffic safety activities in the state and shares useful, timely information about traffic safety and the state's highway safety grant program. The Committee is comprised of thirteen agencies who have missions related to transportation and safety. The GTSC is chaired by the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles and acts as the state's official liaison with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Learn more at <https://trafficsafety.ny.gov/training-and-events>.