Survey Recommendations for the NHTSA-GHSA Working Group

As part of joint effort to develop Traffic Safety Performance Measures for States and Federal Agencies, a GHSA and NHTSA working group identified a basic set of questions that could be used in periodic surveys that track driver attitudes and awareness concerning impaired driving, seat belt use, and speeding issues. NHTSA and GHSA agreed that States would utilize these questions in surveys to be conducted during fiscal year 2010 and that findings would be reported in 2011 Highway Safety Plans.

To identify the recommended questions, survey experts were consulted and a review of recently administered surveys was conducted. The recommended set of core survey questions follows:

Impaired Driving

- A-1: DMV-A7. In the past 60 days, how many times have you driven a motor vehicle within 2 hours after drinking alcoholic beverages?
- A-2: DMV-A13, NHTSA 17a. In the past 30 days, have you read, seen or heard anything about alcohol impaired driving (or drunk driving) enforcement by police?
- A-3: DMV-A8. What do you think the chances are of someone getting arrested if they drive after drinking?

Safety Belts

- B-1: DMV-B8. How often do you use safety belts when you drive or ride in a car, van, sport utility vehicle or pick up?
- B-2: DMV-B13, NHTSA Q14. In the past 60 days, have you read, seen or heard anything about seat belt law enforcement by police?
- B-3: DMV-B10. What do you think the chances are of getting a ticket if you don't wear your safety belt?

Speeding

- S-1a. On a local road with a speed limit of 30 mph, how often do you drive faster than 35 mph most of the time, half the time, rarely, never.
- S-1b. On a road with a speed limit of 65 mph, how often do you drive faster than 70 mph most of the time, half the time, rarely, never.
- S-2: DMV-S15. In the past 30 days, have you read, seen or heard anything about speed enforcement by police?
- S-3: DMV-S9. What do you think the chances are of getting a ticket if you drive over the speed limit?

Further recommendations regarding survey design, methodology and administration are included in the full recommendations paper.