



# THE NAVIGATOR

January 2024 | ISSUE No. 2



## MARIE TUCKER:

*Leading the Team for Commercial Vehicle Operations*

Hello CVO Navigator Readers,

As we step into the new year, I'm thankful for the opportunity to share my journey as the Program Manager for Commercial Vehicle Operations (CVO) at FDOT. I began as a consultant supporting FDOT's Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) program in 2008, then in 2012 I accepted the position of CVO Program Manager. In this position I've been able to manage grants, lead technology developments, spearhead the transition to electronic documentation for the Commercial Motor Vehicle Review Board (CMVRB), and develop the Citation Tracking Tool (CTT).

Looking ahead, addressing the truck parking issue is a critical priority for FDOT and the CVO team as we collaborate with other offices and the Districts to develop solutions that ensure truck drivers have access to safe and accessible parking throughout Florida. Our strategic vision also involves collaboration with FDOT's Motor Carrier Size and Weight (MCSAW) program to test and implement technology that streamlines weigh station operations and improves truck travel time reliability.

*continued on page 2*

### ALIX MILLER:

A Trailblazer in the Florida Trucking Industry

Page 8

### TRUCKING ASSOCIATION

The Florida Trucking Association's 2023 Fall Round-Up, held on October 24-25 at the Orlando Marriott Lake Mary.

Page 9

### MOVE OVER MONTH

January, known as Move Over Awareness Month, marks a crucial time to shed light on the Move Over campaign.

Page 13



## CVO VISION, MISSION, DIVISION SAFETY HIGHLIGHT

The Florida Department of Transportation's Commercial Vehicle Operations (CVO) program places safety at the forefront of its mission. As a division within the Traffic Engineering and Operations (TEO) office, CVO is instrumental in shaping policies and operations related to freight transportation in commercial vehicles.

Aligned with the overarching goals of FDOT, including the FDOT Compass where safety remains the top priority for all Department activities, CVO's strategic vision is centered on three pillars: **improving safety, enhancing mobility, and embracing innovation.** The emphasis on safety is particularly noteworthy, with a commitment to FDOT's "Target Zero" program. This initiative aims to eliminate traffic-related deaths on Florida's roadways, reinforcing safety as the top priority for the state's transportation system.

Within the TEO office and the CVO division, safety goals are measured through a focused

approach – the reduction in crashes involving commercial vehicles. By addressing and mitigating potential risks associated with freight transportation, CVO contributes significantly to the overarching mission of creating safer roadways for all users while ensuring that the movement of commercial vehicles aligns with a broader commitment to minimizing traffic-related incidents and working towards the ambitious goal of zero fatalities on Florida's roads.

### Continued from Cover

– **Marie Tucker:** Leading the Team for Commercial Vehicle Operations

As we set ambitious goals for the next five years, with a focus on truck parking and technology, the CVO program aims to modernize and enhance commercial vehicle operations in Florida. The new year brings fresh opportunities, and I'm excited about the dedication and expertise within the department that will help shape the future of CVO.

Best,

**MARIE TUCKER PROGRAM MANAGER,**  
Commercial Vehicle Operations, FDOT

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# FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL ASSISTS TEXAS IN OPERATION LONE STAR MULTI-STATE EFFORT

In response to a request for assistance securing the US-Mexico border, the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) dispatched 101 personnel to Texas on May 19, 2023. The FHP's deployment to Texas comes as part of Operation Lone Star, a multi-agency border security initiative launched by Texas Governor Greg Abbott in March 2021 to address the rising number of border crossings.

Upon arrival in Texas, FHP personnel were assigned to the state's Del Rio and Weslaco regions. After being sworn in as Texas law enforcement officers, FHP State Troopers collaborated closely with the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Troopers, working together to provide operational support while employing a team concept. FHP members were specifically assigned to the Brownsville and Del Rio areas of Texas, offering round-the-clock assistance to the Department of Public Safety, Texas Highway Patrol.

While supporting Texas DPS in the region, FHP Troopers have been instrumental in making multiple arrests. These arrests encompass a range of charges, including warrants, possession of firearms by felons, possession of marijuana, possession of cocaine, and fleeing or attempting to elude. Charges were also filed for Driving While License Suspended or Revoked (DWLSR) and No Valid Driver's License.

The FHP Troopers have been diligently working in varying shifts to meet the mission's requirements. Their responsibilities span from ground support and manning static posts to conducting roving patrols and foot/brush patrols. Furthermore, the FHP has leveraged advanced technologies by deploying unmanned aircraft units for various purposes, which have been integral in discovering and locating Undocumented Aliens (UDAs). The visibility provided by these assets has allowed responding troopers to safely direct efforts toward apprehending UDAs, resulting in successful outcomes. Notably, the Florida Highway Patrol Aviation Section conducted eight missions to support Operation Lone Star, utilizing state-of-the-art monitoring equipment to further the mission's objectives.

Reflecting on the progress made during Operation Lone Star, here are some highlights from the mission period between June 26 and August 14, 2021:

- FHP Troopers participated in a traffic stop that led to the seizure of an estimated \$500,000.00 in United States currency, underlining their role in combating illicit activities.
- Intelligence gathered during the first week of deployment led to the apprehension of two "Coyotes," individuals involved in human smuggling operations. These apprehensions were subsequently turned over to the United States Border Patrol for interviews and appropriate charges.
- Command Staff of the Texas Highway Patrol reported that the collaboration between FHP Troopers and Texas Troopers in rural areas around the Eagle Pass region significantly improved officer safety. This partnership has resulted in proactive efforts that have increased traffic stops, leading to the discovery of guns, human smuggling, and narcotics.

Operation Lone Star continues to be a critical initiative in enhancing border security, with the support of dedicated personnel like the Florida Highway Patrol, working tirelessly to protect and uphold the safety of the US-Mexico border.



FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL OPERATION LONE STAR-2023	OVERALL STATS
Traffic Stops	6360
Use of Control	0
Pursuit	77
Drug Charges	100
Warrants	70
Arrests	972
Felony Charges	293
Firearm Charges	7
Human Smuggling Charges	348
Human Trafficking Charges	1
Individuals Arrested (Smuggling / Trafficking)	82
Fugitives	11
UDAs	14679
Aircraft UDA Assist	490
Drone Deployment	978
UDAs Identified/Captured by Drone	3205
Vehicles Seized	5
Vehicles Recovered	18
Guns Recovered	10

# MARIE TUCKER

COMMERCIAL VEHICLE OPERATIONS (CVO)  
PROGRAM MANAGER



Marie Tucker, the Program Manager for Commercial Vehicle Operations (CVO) at the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), has been an integral force behind the evolution and success of the CVO program. Marie's journey into the role of CVO Program Manager began as a consultant in 2008 supporting FDOT's Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) program and was further cemented through her involvement with the Commercial Motor Vehicle Review Board (CMVRB) – when it transferred to Traffic Operations in 2011. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated exceptional dedication and expertise, which helped her quickly rise to the position of CVO Program Manager in 2012. In 2019, Marie accepted the honor of being named the Review Board's back up Chair.

Marie's leadership has been instrumental in steering the CVO program through significant changes and challenges over the years. She has played a pivotal role in the program's evolution, including managing the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) Innovative Technology Deployment (ITD) Program that involves coordinating with CVO's Partner agencies for eligible projects and overseeing the grants received under the program. She also championed the evolution and conversion of CMVRB processes from all paper to electronic, and is now spearheading the development and ongoing refinement of the Citation Tracking Tool (CTT) that improves efficiency by centralizing and tracking all protest information received by the CMVRB.

One of the key areas of focus for Marie and the CVO program has been addressing the truck parking issue. Recognizing the impact of safe and accessible parking on commercial drivers' hours of service (HOS) and overall safety, Marie is leading initiatives to enhance truck parking availability across the state. She explains, "The importance of truck parking is front and center. We are working on solutions to add more parking and let drivers know where it is." Key initiatives include the development of the statewide Truck Parking Implementation Study (2023), that

*Marie's strategic vision for the CVO program extends beyond the present challenges. Looking ahead, she is dedicated to leveraging technology and fostering collaboration to further improve the travel time and reliability of the trucking industry. She emphasized the importance of mobility for commercial vehicles, highlighting the collaboration with the FDOT's Motor Carrier Size and Weight (MCSAW) section to deploy and test technologies that keep trucks moving efficiently*

evaluated alternative solutions to expand truck parking and improve utilizations rates at state-owned facilities, as well as the statewide deployment of the Truck Parking Availability System (TPAS), that informs drivers of available parking at nearby public facilities via roadway signs, Florida's 511, and third-party navigation apps.

She has been at the forefront of fostering collaboration with partner agencies within the state and beyond. Marie has been influential in establishing a quarterly partnership meeting and facilitating open communication and cooperation with other agencies. "We have good collaboration with our partner agencies within the state. We help each other however it's needed," she explains.

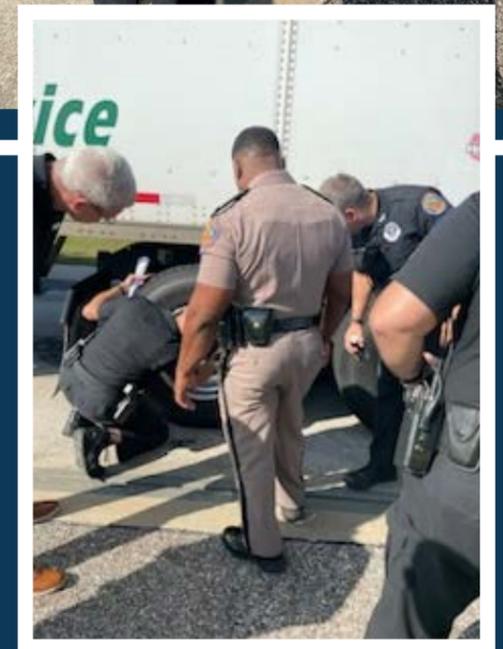
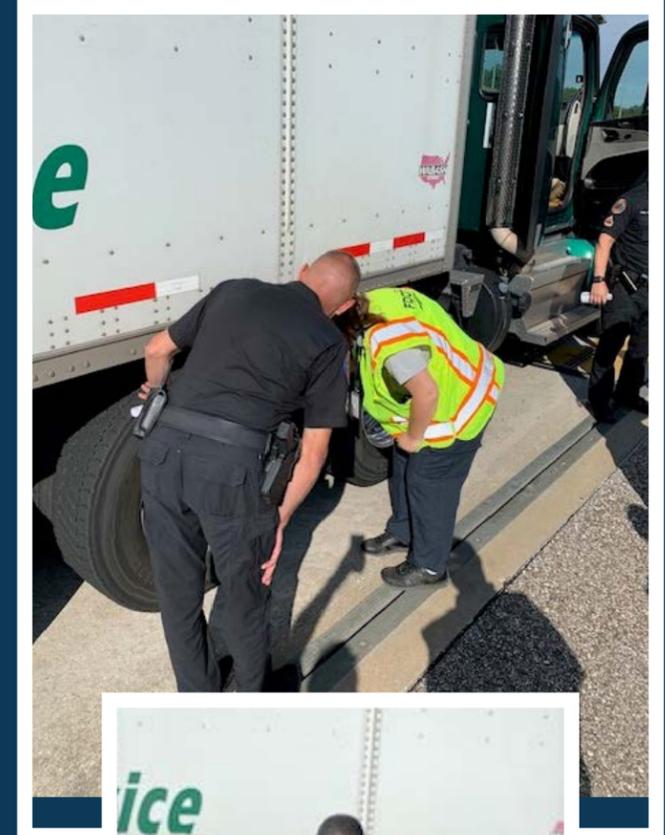
Marie and the CVO program have set their sights on ambitious goals for the next five years. Her commitment to addressing industry challenges and fostering collaboration underscores her vision for the future. With a strong focus on truck parking and leveraging technology, the group aims to continue modernizing and enhancing Commercial Vehicle Operations in Florida.

Marie Tucker's leadership as the CVO Program Manager at FDOT has been instrumental in driving the program's evolution and success. Her strategic vision, commitment to addressing industry challenges, and emphasis on collaboration have positioned the CVO program for continued growth and innovation in the years to come.

# AUTOMATED TIRE SCREENING TRAINING AT SEFFNER

Mettler Toledo conducted training for the Automated Tire Screening system at the Seffner I-4 Weigh Station.

The Mettler Toledo instructors provided both a presentation and training on the practical use of the automated tire screening system. Mettler Toledo is a multinational manufacturer of scales and weighing instruments used in industrial fields throughout the world. This training focused on how the system identifies real-time tire anomaly information on CMVs utilizing advanced hardware and software solutions. Once the system identifies a suspect tire, further investigations can be initiated to verify if there is an issue with underinflation and an enforcement action can take place if merited. The training received by the troopers and weight inspectors will help ensure the safety of commercial vehicle drivers as well as the citizens they share the road with. Since incorrect tire pressure can cause damage to roads and can result in serious accidents, this is a great tool to help identify potentially unsafe vehicles and take them off the highway.



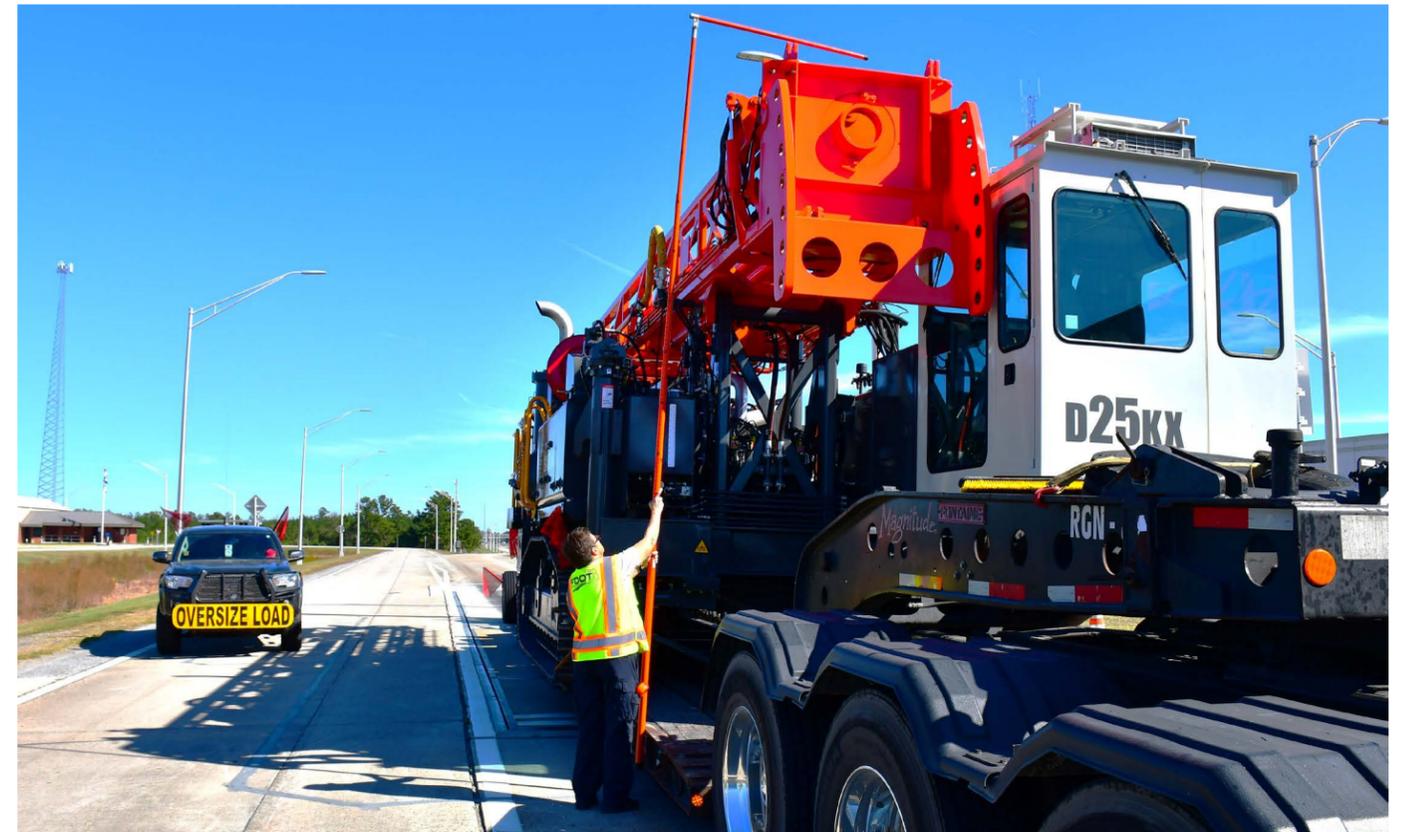
# CVO STATEWIDE DISTRICT TOUR HIGHLIGHTS PROJECTS IN DISTRICT THREE

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is a decentralized agency consisting of seven districts and Florida's Turnpike Enterprise (FTE). While organizational structure may differ between the districts and Central Office, it generally has the same major offices in each district. One exception to this rule, is the Commercial Vehicle Operations (CVO) Division within the Traffic Engineering and Operations (TEO) Office in Central Office, as the districts or FTE do not have a CVO division.

Commercial Vehicle Operations encompass the policy and operations associated with moving freight in commercial vehicles and the activities to regulate these operations. As there is not a CVO counterpart within the districts or FTE, the District Freight Coordinator (DFC) oversees some of the

activities that typically fall under the CVO division in Central Office. To create consistency, improve collaboration, enhance commercial vehicle operations across the state, and advance the goals of the offices and the Department, the CVO office works in close coordination with the DFCs.

The CVO office initiated a Statewide District Tour to visit each of the DFCs to learn more about current and future projects, success stories, any challenges they are facing, and identify ways to support their efforts. The Statewide Tour will give each of the DFCs the opportunity to visit a weigh station within their district to learn more about the freight traveling through their district, enforcement of commercial vehicles, and weigh station operations.



## DISTRICT THREE

District Three represents Florida's Panhandle and encompasses all the counties from the Alabama state line to the Aucilla river. Ray Corbitt has been District Three's DFC for two years but has been with District Three for over 15 years, providing in-depth knowledge and expertise of the region.

Marie Tucker and Jeff Frost had the opportunity to meet with Ray in early November 2023, and visit the Sneads Weigh Station in Jackson County. Prior to visiting the weigh station, Marie and Jeff sat down with Ray to learn more about District Three's initiatives. Ray provided some insight into the port projects and explained how the port generates more revenue than tourism, illustrating the importance of advancing new initiatives and maintaining a pipeline of projects. Truck parking expansion is also a high freight priority in District Three. A few highlights of the commercial vehicle and freight operations projects taking place in District Three include:

- Widen East Avenue in Port of Panama City and implement Complete Streets. Located on and around East Avenue, there is the Gulf Coast College, the Port of Panama City, on-street parking a more. A Complete Streets approach helps maximize improvements between the competing interests of the different industries within the project area and immediate surroundings. This project is currently six on the list and the district is currently seeking funding to carry our design and construction.
- East Terminal Expansion (Phase Two). Investment in the Phase Two Development of the East Terminal is a primary focus for Port Panama City's future growth. It involves constructing a new 200,000 square foot warehouse and is expected to begin

construction in 2025. The expansion of the East Terminal and the additional improvement is projected to provide 337 new jobs and reduce 3.9 million truck miles annually.

- Expansion of truck parking at state owned facilities. During the development of the statewide Truck Parking Implementation Study (2024); all rest areas, welcome centers, and weigh stations were evaluated for expansion of truck parking. The study also examined alternative ROW locations such as interchange infields and parcels adjacent to existing private parking within District Three. Jefferson, Okaloosa, and Leon County rest areas are currently under design and the district is considering the use of angled back-in parking to increase the amount of truck parking spaces with little to no additional pavement needed. The district is also looking at potential Public Private Partnerships (P3) as an alternative solution to creating more truck parking.



# ALIX MILLER: A TRAILBLAZER IN THE TRUCKING INDUSTRY



**Alix Miller, the President and CEO of the Florida Trucking Association**, is a remarkable leader whose journey into the trucking industry is as unique as it is inspiring. With a background as a professional ballet dancer and a college professor of dance, Alix brings a wealth of diverse experiences and a fresh perspective to her role as the head of the Association.

In a recent interview, Alix shared insights into her transition from the world of dance to the trucking industry. She highlighted how her passion for educating and influencing people led her to seek new ways to apply her skills. Her commitment to sharing her message and getting others excited about it has been a driving force within the trucking industry.

One of Alix's significant accomplishments during her tenure at the Florida Trucking Association has been her pivotal role in advocating for tort reform. Her strategic efforts resulted in a comprehensive tort reform package. "It's the most significant win since deregulation," Alix explains. Her dedication to addressing lawsuit abuse and balancing the court system has a profound impact on the trucking industry, ensuring a more even playing field between plaintiffs and defendants.

Looking ahead, Alix has her sights set on crucial legislative priorities, including addressing the pressing issue of truck parking. The challenges faced by truck drivers in finding safe and secure parking spots, emphasizing the impact on driver recruitment and retention. She says, "It's also an enormous recruiting and retention issue for us. You can imagine, it takes a driver an average of 56 minutes a day looking for a parking spot. So, that's pull-in time off the road of that freight moving forward." Her focus on this issue underscores her commitment to improving working conditions and safety standards within the industry.

Her unique background as a dancer has instilled valuable skills that she has seamlessly integrated into her leadership role. The strength and constantly seeking improvements in whatever field she is based in the discipline and ability to face constant rejection, drawing parallels between her experiences in ballet and the challenges encountered in the trucking industry. She referenced her background, saying, "The lessons of rejection and discipline from my time in ballet have been invaluable in my role within the trucking industry. I've learned to face challenges head-on and to persist in the face of adversity."

Furthermore, her commitment to understanding her audience, a skill honed during her time as a dance professor and a higher-level educator, has been a cornerstone of her leadership approach. Her ability to connect with diverse stakeholders and effectively communicate the Association's goals has been instrumental in driving progress and fostering positive relationships within the industry.

As the Florida Trucking Association approaches its 90th Anniversary in 2024, Alix is focused on engaging the next generation of leaders within the organization. Her vision for the future includes a strong focus on education, safety campaigns, and recruiting efforts to attract a diverse range of talent to the trucking industry.

Alix Miller's journey from the world of dance to the helm of the Florida Trucking Association is a testament to her resilience, adaptability, and unwavering commitment to driving positive change. Her leadership, accomplishments in tort reform, and strategic goals for the future underscore her dedication to shaping a more inclusive, safe, and thriving trucking industry.



**In her own words, Alix encapsulated her vision, stating, "I truly believe that there is something for everyone in the trucking industry. My journey is a testament to the power of embracing diversity and driving positive change. I am committed to shaping a future where the trucking industry thrives, and everyone has the opportunity to contribute and succeed."**

# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FLORIDA TRUCKING ASSOCIATION'S 2023 FALL ROUND-UP CONFERENCE

The Florida Trucking Association's 2023 Fall Round-Up, held on October 24-25 at the Orlando Marriott Lake Mary, proved to be an insightful and engaging event for the over 150 trucking executives in attendance. The conference offered a platform for networking and educational sessions featuring prominent industry leaders from both private and public sectors.



Noteworthy participants from FDOT/CVO, FDOT/MCSAW, FHP, and FMCSA added a significant depth to the discussions. Trey Tillander, FDOT Executive Director of Transportation Technology, shared insights during a presentation that focused on key initiatives relevant to the trucking industry. The topics covered included the Freight Network in Florida, addressing crucial issues like truck parking, and exploring the latest technology applications.



A highlight of the conference was the comprehensive overview provided by FMCSA Florida Division Administrator Jeff Sanderson. He delved into the current rules and regulations that impact the trucking industry and its drivers. His presentation shed light on the evolving landscape of compliance and safety, offering valuable perspectives for trucking professionals navigating regulatory changes.

The conference not only fostered connections among industry professionals but also served as a vital platform for staying abreast of the latest developments and regulations shaping the trucking landscape in Florida. The engaging presentations by Tillander and Sanderson underscored the commitment of the Florida Trucking Association to keep its members well-informed and equipped for success in an ever-evolving industry.



# COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE REVIEW BOARD (CMVRB) MEMBERS

Florida Statue 316.545(7) established the Commercial Motor Vehicle Review Board (CMVRB) that is responsible for considering protests against commercial vehicle citations issued for registration, weight, safety, fuel and motor tax violations.

## Jeff Frost, Chairman of the Board (representing the Secretary of Transportation, Jared Perdue, P.E.)

Jeff Frost brings a wealth of experience in commercial vehicle enforcement (CVE), spanning over two decades. Before joining the TIM/CVO team in 2015, he served as an Officer, Sergeant, and Lieutenant at FDOT's Office of Motor Carrier Compliance for 16 years. Following the merger with FHP in 2011, he continued his service as a Lieutenant at FHP until 2015, when he returned to FDOT. As the Chairman of the review board for the past eight years, his commitment to enhancing transportation safety and commercial vehicle compliance has remained steadfast.

## Alan Walker Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (representing Commissioner of Agriculture, Wilton Simpson)

Alan Walker has worked for the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for over 30 years, currently as the Field Administrator for South Florida. He began his career as a scale inspector, which has given him valuable insight into the rules and regulations governing commercial vehicle operations that he leverages on the CMVRB, where he has served as a board member for four years. He is happily married to his wife of 38 years and has two great children. He continues to be committed to improving safety and efficiency within the commercial vehicle industry.

## Scott Christy, Member of the Road Construction Industry (Appointed)

With a robust 25-year background in the highway construction industry, Scott Christy has been an integral part of Anderson-Columbia, a leading infrastructure company operating in the southeastern United States. The company is recognized nationally for their vital role in the construction of highway infrastructure that contribute to the growth and maintenance of transportation systems. Christy's experience managing a fleet comprised of 40-50 dump trucks, tractor trailers, and lowboys in addition to holding a CDL license since 1992, gives him a unique perspective that blends his knowledge of commercial vehicle operations and the highway infrastructure industry. Appointed to the board two years ago by the Governor, he is dedicated to contributing his industry expertise to foster the board's mission.

## Tod Browning, Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicle (representing Executive Director, Dave Kerner)

Serving on the Commercial Motor Vehicle Review Board for seven years as the representative for the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, Tod Browning brings over 37 years of experience to the table. With a comprehensive understanding of federal and state CDL regulations, he's spent more than 30 years dedicated to the commercial driver license program. As the CDL Coordinator for the past decade, his expertise lies in supervisory roles, system programming, and direct involvement in CDL compliance, both from the business and IT perspectives

## Scott Reagan, Member with a General Business or Legal Background (Appointed)

With over 30 years in the trucking industry, Scott Reagan's focus has predominantly been on Fleet Safety and Risk Management. His experience spans roles at national less-than-truck (LTL) carriers and a regional auto transport company. Appointed by Governor DeSantis in 2019, Scott's time on the board has provided valuable insights into state enforcement and compliance procedures. Actively involved in organizations like the Florida Trucking Association Safety Management Council and the Truck Driving Championship, he collaborates closely with the Florida Highway Patrol and professional drivers to advance roadway safety.

## Kathy Panozzo, Member from the Trucking Industry (Appointed)

Since 2021, Kathy Panozzo has proudly represented the trucking industry on the Commercial Motor Vehicle Review Board. During her 18-year tenure at Landstar Transportation Logistics, Inc., Kathy managed the trailer department in the Jacksonville office for eight years, ensuring compliance with FMCSA regulations. Recently transitioning to the Operator/Equipment Compliance department, she now serves as the Director, overseeing all operator qualification and equipment files for Landstar's owner/operators. Active in industry associations like the California Trucking Association and Women in Trucking, she is honored to have been appointed by Governor DeSantis to contribute to the CMVRB.

## CMVRB QUARTERLY DATA

Month/Yr.	Total # Citations	Total Amount of Fines			Total Amount Protested
		weight	safety	fuel	
Oct-23	99	\$74,455.40	\$27,740.00	\$3,235.00	\$105,430.40
Nov-23	102	\$66,585.95	\$14,490.00	\$2,310.00	\$83,385.95
Dec-23	83	\$46,455.30	\$19,840.00	\$2,195.00	\$68,490.30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>\$187,496.65</b>	<b>\$62,070.00</b>	<b>\$7,740.00</b>	<b>\$257,306.65</b>

Month/Yr.	# of Cases Granted Relief	Total Amount of Refunds			Total Amount of Refunds
		weight	safety	fuel	
Oct-23	30	\$16,384.40	\$12,325.00	\$390.00	\$29,099.40
Nov-23	40	\$21,248.35	\$4,700.00	\$125.00	\$26,073.35
Dec-23	32	\$8,737.35	\$5,012.50	\$170.00	\$13,919.85
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>\$46,370.10</b>	<b>\$22,037.50</b>	<b>\$685.00</b>	<b>\$69,092.60</b>

Month/Yr.	# of Cases Granted Full Relief	# of Cases Granted Partial Relief	Amount Granted Full Relief	Amount Granted Partial Relief
Oct-23	8	22	\$15,407.60	\$13,691.80
Nov-23	17	24	\$6,700.95	\$19,372.40
Dec-23	13	19	\$4,739.05	\$9,180.80
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>\$26,847.60</b>	<b>\$42,245.00</b>



# OFFICE OF AGRICULTURE LAW ENFORCEMENT (OALE) WORKS TO PREVENT UNSAFE FOOD FROM HITTING STORE SHELVES

On December 18, 2023, OALE officers conducted a regulatory inspection on a semi-truck and its loaded trailer containing mixed produce at the Agricultural Interdiction Station #19 in Pensacola, located at Mile Marker 1 on East Bound I-10. Upon reviewing the Bill of Lading, officers noted two bundles of sugar cane listed, totaling 20 pieces inside the trailer. The product originated from a produce site in Houston, Texas.

Agricultural Inspection Station #19 DPI Inspectors checked the DPI database for a proper permit for the sugar cane and found that there was no permit issued. The movement of propagative parts of sugarcane into the state of Florida is prohibited unless accompanied by a special permit issued by the Department (RSA 5B-3.003). It was determined by DPI to confiscate the sugar cane for destruction.



Upon retrieving the sugar cane, officers observed a plastic bucket with no lid sitting on top of a pallet of boxed produce and other food items. The bucket was labeled as containing vegetables; however, the bucket actually contained what appeared to be coagulated blood bars in a blood-type liquid. The liquid contents of the bucket had spilled over the boxes of produce, both unprocessed and processed items, contaminating everything underneath the bucket on the pallet.

Officers removed the bucket and discovered soggy cardboard boxes containing open plastic bags of various raw meat parts: hearts, tongues, intestines,

stomach, sausage, and unidentifiable pies that appeared to have meat inside. These bags were improperly packaged with no labels and missing lids and contained unknown meat products. None of the meat or meat products were listed on the Bill of Ladings and the driver had no other paperwork.

The meat products were on a pallet marked with a destination in Jacksonville, Florida and were picked up with the sugarcane from a produce company in Houston, TX. The temperature of the meat products tested well above the approved range of



temperature for frozen (0°) or unfrozen (40°). The meat was sitting on top of two large pallets of mixed produce and other boxes of produce products, therefore contaminating pallets underneath as well as surrounding items on other pallets.



OALE officers sealed the load with a metal FDACS seal, and the driver was advised per the Division of Food Safety guidelines that his load of products was contaminated and could not enter the state. Officers escorted the truck out of state, while issuing a BOLO to prevent its reentry.

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services supports and promotes Florida agriculture, protects the environment, safeguards consumers, and ensures the safety and wholesomeness of food. For more information about the Florida Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement (OALE), please visit <https://www.fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Agricultural-Law-Enforcement>



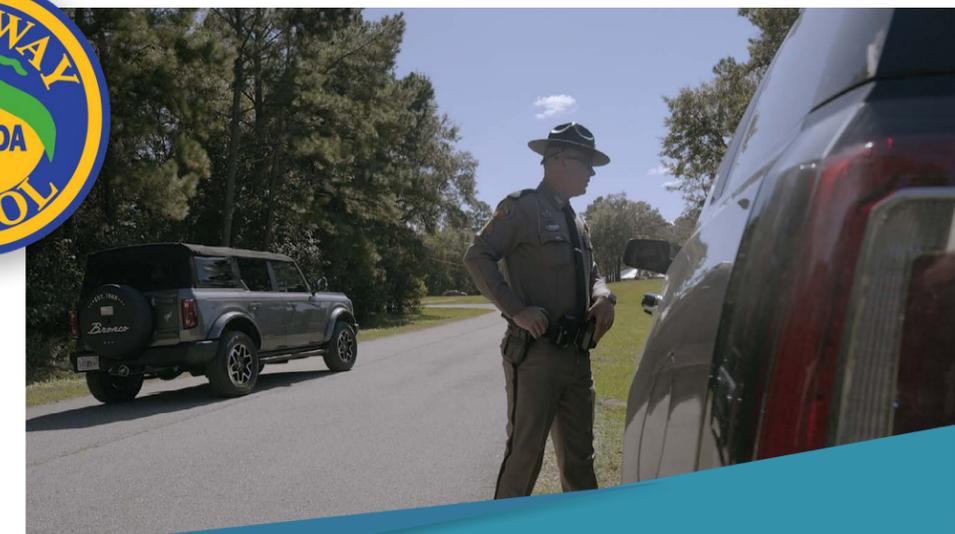
January, known as Move Over Awareness Month, marks a crucial time to shed light on the Move Over campaign. This campaign serves as a concerted effort to educate Floridians about Move Over Laws and their pivotal role in safeguarding the lives of law enforcement officers, first responders, wrecker workers, and private citizens on Florida's roadways.

The core principles of Florida's Move Over Law are straightforward but impactful. On a two-lane road, drivers must reduce their speed to a minimum of 20 miles per hour less than the posted speed limit. If the limit is 20 miles per hour or less, slowing down to five miles per hour is mandatory. When on an interstate or a multi-lane road with the same direction of travel, approaching a parked or law enforcement vehicle necessitates changing lanes to the one farthest from the vehicle when safe to do so. If changing lanes is not feasible, drivers must slow down to 20 miles per hour below the posted speed limit unless instructed otherwise by law enforcement.

Effective January 1, 2024, an addition made to the law through House Bill 425 now requires drivers to move over for disabled vehicles displaying hazard lights or flares and reflective signage. Violating the Move Over Law poses risks not only to yourself and those involved in the incident, but also to the safety of the professionals on the scene. Not complying with the law can result in legal consequences such as fines and points on your license. Previously, this law only involved first responders, now the addition to the law requires drivers to follow the lane change or speed reduction for any disabled vehicle. Whether this vehicle is disabled due to a motor accident, or if they are displaying hazard lights, the requirement to change lanes or reduce speed is enforceable in each situation.



The Move Over campaign assists in educating drivers on how to prioritize their own safety, as well as the safety of law enforcement and members of the community they share the road with every day.





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COMMERCIAL VEHICLE OPERATIONS