

SOUTHEAST OAKLAND COUNTY CRASH INVESTIGATION TEAM



2013 Annual Report



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Southeast Oakland County Crash Investigation Team

During the 2013 calendar year the SOCCIT team had 14 call outs. The team continues to work well together and receives positive feedback about the professionalism the members display. Investigations are conducted with quality and efficiency. The team uses the principles of effective traffic incident management to thoroughly investigate the crash while causing as minimal a disruption to traffic as possible. The SOCCIT team continues to train together regularly and has hosted investigators from outside agencies during our in-service training dates.

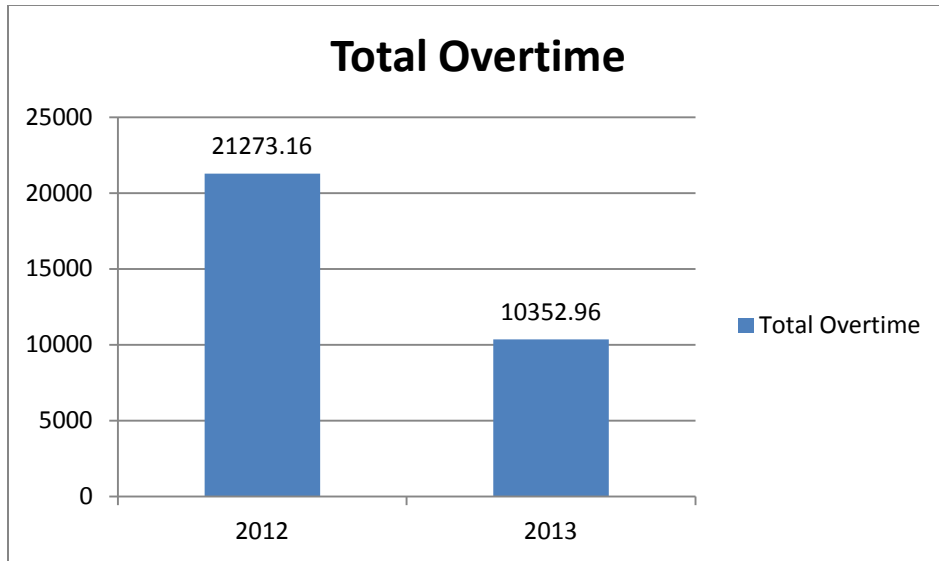
Team Objectives

Reduction of overtime: We believe we can reduce the overtime load on a single agency when a fatal crash occurs by combining resources. The sharing of investigators from all three communities increases the likelihood of personnel being on duty, therefore, reducing the need to call investigators in on overtime. In addition, sharing the costs across all three agencies when overtime is needed decreases the burden of any single agency for an event.

Reduction of time spent on the roadway: The presence of on duty personnel means the crash investigation starts faster and is completed with less impact on the surrounding community due to lane or roadway closures. The use of advanced technology (Total Station) means a higher quality investigation can be completed faster than traditional measuring options.

Skill use: Investigators will get more opportunities to utilize the highly technical skills they have been trained in. The team has utilized 'peer review' of incidents to insure accuracy.

One of the fundamental objectives of the multi-agency team is the reduction of overtime for crash investigation call outs. We believe we have met this objective. Utilizing a combination of on duty personnel as well as sharing the call out costs has allowed us to keep costs down. In 2012 there were 18 team activations within all three communities. The total overtime cost to all agencies was \$21,273.16. In 2013 there were 14 team activations within all three communities. The total overtime costs for all agencies was \$10,352.96 a 51% reduction in overtime spent by all three communities. (22% less incidents handled.)



SOCCIT In-Service Training Sessions:

The SOCCIT team trained as a unit on four (4) separate dates in 2013.

April 11th

Host: Auburn Hills

- Cell phone evidence; Det. Brian Martin
- Standardized protocols for non-ambulatory drivers; Ofc. Dan Prachar
- Mass vehicle crash response discussion

May 8th

Host: Bloomfield Twp

- Railway Crash Investigations: Operation Lifesaver
- Train vs Pedestrian crash review

September 12

Host: Auburn Hills

- Total Station Set up and Practice
- Utilized both team instruments and LTI laser to complete large area map

October 18th

Host: Troy

- Common mistake areas in crash investigation: MSP Sgt. Tim Brown (ret)
- Demonstration and overview of Oakland County Emergency Management Equipment

April (9th) and May (15th) dates have been scheduled for 2014 training. Fall dates are to be determined.

Aggressive Driving Detail

In December of 2012 an application was submitted to the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police nominating the SOCCIT Team for consideration for the Award for Excellence in Traffic Safety. MACP, AAA, and OHSP awarded SOCCIT with third place and a \$5,000 grant for traffic safety equipment or initiatives. It was determined that the Team would use the funds to conduct selective enforcement of aggressive driving behaviors on I-75 throughout the three communities. On 6/11/13 and 9/10/13 the team scheduled aggressive driving details with other members of the SOCCIT team. The detail was conducted on I-75 from 14 mile through the weigh scales north of Baldwin. The initial media awareness campaign drew a large amount of positive media attention, including features on the local Fox, NBC, and ABC broadcast. In addition to stories on WWJ radio and print media.

The results of the aggressive driving detail were:

Total traffic stops – 101

Total tickets – 93

Arrests – 3

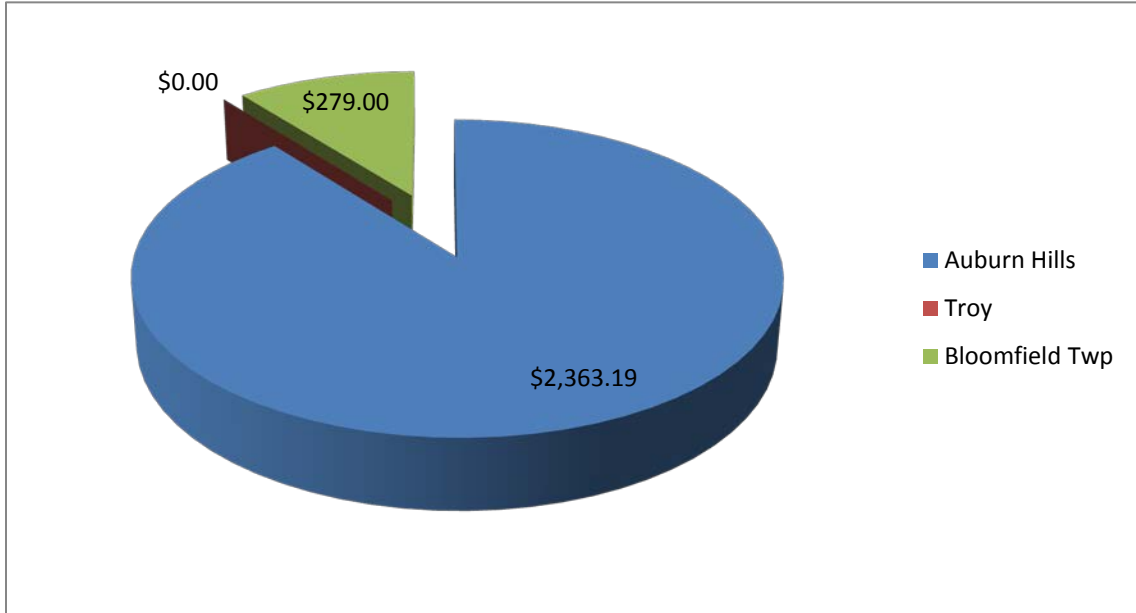
Specialization

The combined team offers investigators with additional specialized skills. This is a tremendous value to each individual member agency. Having these specialists available as part of the overall team means that each member agency does not need to train personnel in multiple specialized areas but still has access to these valuable skills. Some examples:

Auburn Hills:	Drug Recognition Expert Forensic Mapping ARIDE and SFST Instructor Advanced Reconstruction
Bloomfield Township:	Advanced Reconstruction Child Restraint Occupant Kinematics
Troy:	Motor Carrier Advanced Reconstruction Forensic Mapping Drug Recognition Expert

Equipment

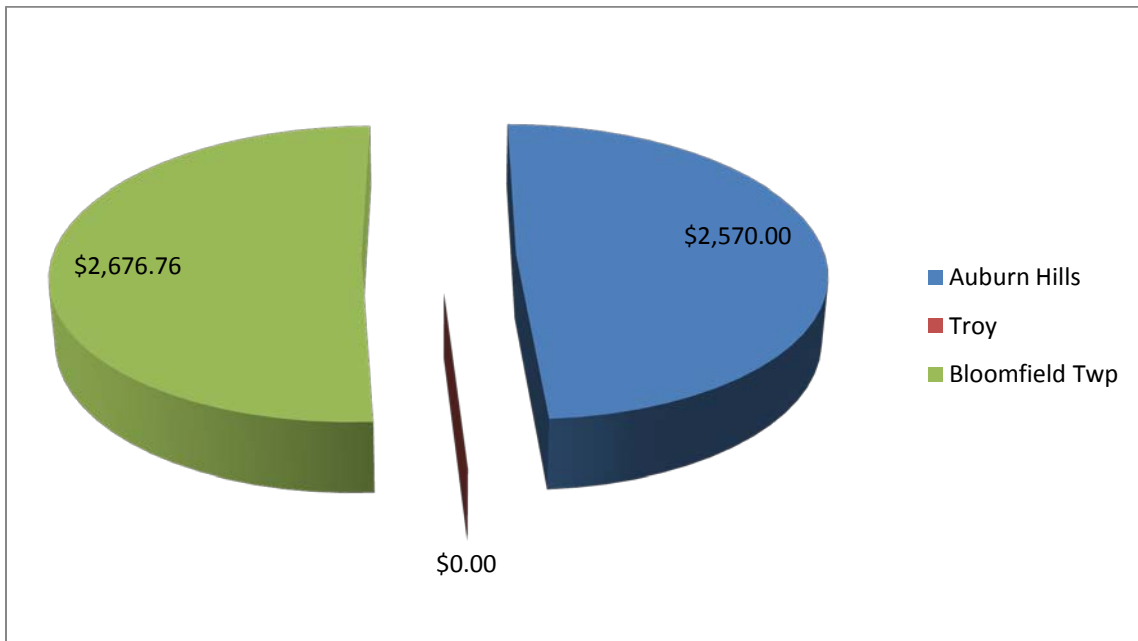
The following is a breakdown of equipment expenditures per agency:



Auburn Hills updated the data collector for the Total Station with the purchase of a Trimble Nomad 900C. This unit is consistent with the equipment that Troy purchased in 2012. In addition Auburn Hills renewed their license agreement for the EdgeFx and Mfx software package. Bloomfield Township renewed their officer's memberships in MATAI and a subscription to Collision Magazine. Troy reported no equipment expenditures for 2012.

Training

The following shows outside training dollars spent specifically for team members:

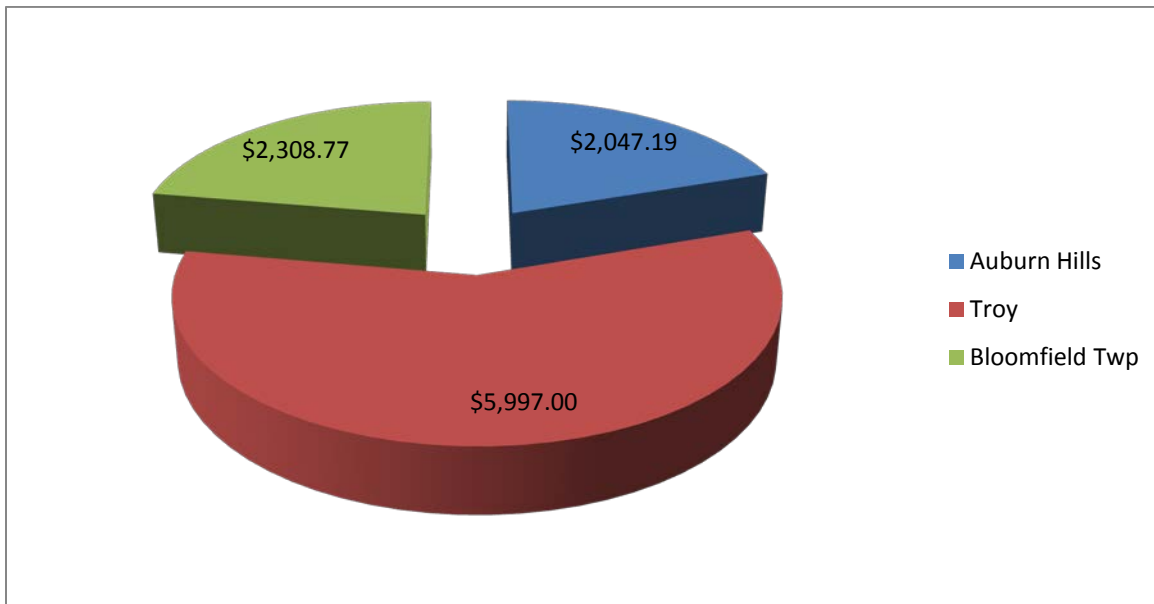


In 2013 Auburn Hills sent a new investigator to AI-1,2,3,5, and 6.

Bloomfield Township sent investigators to AI-25, AI-11 and AI-12. In addition four (4) team members from Bloomfield Township attended the spring and fall Michigan Association of Traffic Accident Investigators conference.

Troy had no outside training in 2013 specific to crash investigation.

Overtime



Auburn Hills spent \$2047.49 in overtime for SOCCIT call outs in 2012. This was a total for all 13 call outs in the three (3) communities. Five (5) of the fourteen callouts were within the City of Auburn Hills.

Bloomfield Township spent \$2308.77 in overtime for all call outs. Four (4) of the fourteen call outs were within Bloomfield Township.

Troy had a total of \$5997.00 in overtime for SOCCIT call outs. Five (5) of the fourteen call outs occurred in the City of Troy.

Plans for 2014

The team will continue to expand the quality and depth of the quarterly training sessions and insure that each session is registered with MCOLES. Sgt. Shackelford and Sgt. Leonard are presenting at the Michigan Traffic Safety Summit. The focus of this breakout session is on resource sharing and its benefits to traffic crash investigation. Joining them will be a member of the Blue Ridge Regional Crash Team. The Blue Ridge Regional Crash Team is a group of teams similar to SOCCIT that serve a large part of the State of Virginia.

The team is continuing to research 3D scanners for crash and crime scene mapping. At a first glance the 3D scanner is an excellent tool for crash and crime scene reconstruction. These systems seem to have a high potential to reduce our on-roadway investigation time. However, these systems are just starting to see more use in law enforcement and prices are just beginning to come down. Team members will continue to research the tool as well as explore sources of funding available.

Incident Summary

Auburn Hills

13-3145

Roadway time: 1:37

On February 12th a single car crash was reported northbound on I-75 just north of South Blvd. The driver was critically injured and SOCCIT was called. Bloomfield Twp SOCCIT members were first on the scene due to the location and immediately began advanced investigation protocols. The driver was pronounced deceased at the hospital. Evidence led investigators to believe the driver was highly intoxicated on prescription medication and 'nodded off.' Toxicology tests confirmed our findings.

13-6971

Roadway time: 3:44

On April 8th a single car crash was reported south bound on I-75 at the M-24 Interchange. SOCCIT was activated to assist in the investigation. Investigation revealed that the driver lost control due to an aggressive lane change and struck the wall. The driver suffered serious facial and wrist injuries. The driver of the car was cited for careless as

100mph. The teen driver was charged with Operating Under the Influence Causing Serious Injury. The case is currently pending in Probate Court.

On Duty response from Troy, Auburn Hills

Overtime:

13- Roadway time: 3:23

On October 24th 2013 the team was called out for a truck/pedestrian fatal on Telegraph Road near Square Lake Road. Investigation ultimately revealed that this was a suicide. This incident involved a truck hauling US mail, which required the involvement of the US Postal Inspection Service. This added some time to the investigation on the road. In addition there was some preliminary information that the victim may have been fleeing from a separate crime. This also delayed the on road investigation.

13- Roadway time: 2:46

On December 4th, 2013 SOCCIT was activated for a serious injury pedestrian crash on Maple east of Lahser. Investigation revealed a highly intoxicated pedestrian crossed mid-block and was struck by a vehicle. Pedestrian cited for failure to use crosswalk.

Troy

13-414 Roadway time: 4:03

On January 4th, 2013 SOCCIT responded to a single vehicle crash on Southbound I-75 at Wattles. The responsible driver was killed.

13-10003 Roadway time: 3:00

On April 1, 2013 there was a six (6) vehicle crash with a hit and run responsible driver on Rochester Road at Long Lake. One (1) driver died from injuries sustained in the crash. The responsible driver was identified and charged. The driver entered a guilty plea.

13-12538 Roadway time: 3:16

On April 25th, 2013 a vehicle travelling south bound on I-75 left the roadway and launched off of I-75 down onto Maple Road. The driver suffered serious injuries. The driver was referred for license re-examination.

13-20516 Roadway time: 6:27

On July 1st, 2013 a vehicle travelling slowly in the right lane of north bound I-75 near Big Beaver was struck by a semi truck. There was a resulting fire and the two (2) occupants of the car were both deceased. Investigation was presented to Oakland County Prosecutor's Office and charges were denied for the semi truck driver.

** This was the first time since the team was developed that a vehicle and bodies were removed from the roadway. There were some administrative problems with how this

worked out, however members of the SOCCIT team met with the Medical Examiner and this policy was reaffirmed and the issues were identified and resolved.

13-22031

Roadway time: 1:44

On July 14th SOCCIT members were called to a single vehicle crash on Park Street in Troy. The driver and passenger were seriously injured in the crash. The investigation was presented to OCPO and a warrant was issued for Operating while impaired. The case is currently pending trial.

Auburn Hills				
SOCIT Personnel / Financial Commitment				
March 3, 2014				
Personnel				
1	Lt. Miarka	Administration		
2	Sgt. Leonard	Investigator		
3	Sgt. O'Hala	Investigator		
4	Ofc. Eftink	Investigator		
5	Ofc. Miller	Investigator		
6	Ofc. Pracher	Investigator		
Overtime				
	SGT		\$ 367.42	
	OFC IN		\$ 732.11	
	OFC OUT		\$ 947.66	
		Total	\$2,047.19	
Equipment / Software Updates				
	Nomad 900C data collector		\$ 1,449.00	
	Bluetooth adapter		\$ 249.99	
	EdgeFx Maint.		\$ 395.10	
	MfX Maint.		\$ 269.10	
		Total	\$ 2,363.19	
Training				
	Course	Hours	# of Personnel	Costs
	AI-12 Pedestrian	16	1	\$ 335.00
	AI-1,2,3,5,6	112	1	\$2,235.00
			Total	\$2,570.00
Total Costs of Overtime/Upgrades/Training			\$ 6,980.38	

Bloomfield Township				
SOCIT Personnel / Financial Commitment				
January 1, 2014				
Personnel				
1	Sgt.Shackleford	Supervisor		
2	Ofc. Hill	Investigator		
3	Ofc. Marthen	Investigator		
4	Ofc. Follman	Investigator		
Overtime				
Sgt	BLTP		\$	936.60
OFC	BLTP		\$	776.70
OFC	OUTSIDE		\$	595.47
Total			\$	2,308.77
Equipment / Software Updates				
	Collision Magazine		\$	119.00
	MATAI Memberships		\$	160.00
Total			\$	279.00
Training				
	Course	Hours	# of Personnel	Costs
	Forensic Mapping		1	\$ 720.00
	AI11-Night Visibility		1	\$ 335.00
	AI12-Pedestrians		1	\$ 440.00
	MATAI Conference	Spr/Fall	4	\$1,181.76
Total			\$	2,676.76
Total Costs of Overtime/Upgrades/Training			\$	5,264.53

City of Troy					
SOCIT Personnel / Financial Commitment					
January 1, 2014					
Personnel					
1	Cpt. Redmond	Admin			
2	Sgt. Szuminski	Admin			
3	Sgt. Gobler	Investigator	7	Ofc. Villerot	Investigator
4	Ofc. Stansbury	Investigator	8	Ofc. Shuler	Investigator
5	Ofc. Linton	Investigator	9	Ofc. Morse	In-Training
6	Ofc. Warzecha	Investigator	10	Ofc. Huck	In-Training
Overtime					
					\$ 5,997.00
					Total \$ 5,997.00
Equipment / Software Updates					
	None				
					Total \$ -
Training					
	Course	Hours	# of Personnel		Costs
	No outside AI training				\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
					\$ -
				Total	\$ -
Total Costs of Overtime/Upgrades/Training					\$ 5,997.00