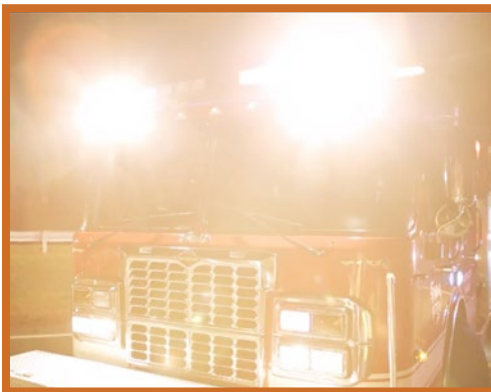


TRAINING TIP: EMERGENCY VEHICLE LIGHT DISCIPLINE

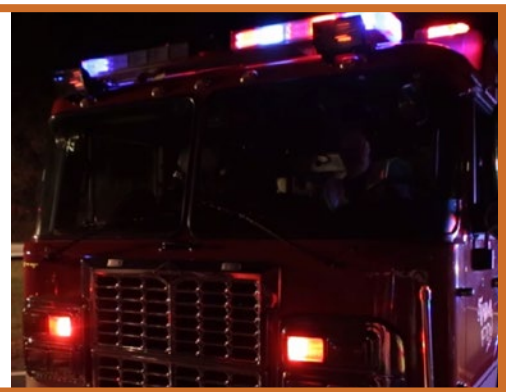
The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) provides guidance on the use of emergency vehicle lighting. Emergency vehicle lighting is essential, especially in the initial stages of a traffic incident. However, it only warns drivers and does not provide effective traffic control. Using too many lights at an incident scene can be distracting and create confusion for approaching road users, especially at night (MUTCD 11th 6O.05). Consider the following when lighting a crash scene:

- Once a scene is secured, less is more.
- Reduce distractions for oncoming drivers.
- Turn off any unnecessary lights.
- Only the rear-most and blocking vehicles should use emergency lights after traffic control is set.
- Use directional arrows and vehicle-mounted dynamic message signs (DMS) when possible to help drivers navigate the scene.



A recent study¹ found that lower-intensity lights provided practically the same level of visibility at night as higher-intensity lights while causing less glare for drivers.

¹ See "Effects of Emergency Vehicle Lighting Characteristics on Driver Perception and Behavior: Study Report" on respondersafety.com



For more on emergency vehicle lighting, check out the following resources:

- [Nebraska TIM Emergency Vehicle Light Discipline Fact Sheet](#)
- [Nebraska TIM Statewide Virtual Meeting 10/29/24: Next Gen TIM: SMART Emergency Vehicle Lighting](#)
- [Emergency Responder Safety Institute: Emergency Vehicles & Lighting](#)
- Responder Safety Learning Network Training Modules:
 - [New Technologies in Emergency Vehicle Lighting](#)
 - [See and Be Seen: Emergency Lighting Awareness](#)

Practice S-M-A-R-T Lighting

- **S**trategic placement
- **M**eaningful messaging
- **A**utomatic features
- **R**educed pattern and intensity
- **T**iered approach (light shedding)

Learn about SMART lighting [here](#), and check out our past segment from the Nebraska TIM Statewide Virtual Meeting on SMART Emergency Vehicle Lighting on [YouTube](#).

TRAINING PROGRESS

701 people have been trained so far this year! The goal of 1,000 is 70% complete.

Up-to-date information on classes, including the registration form, is available on the [training website](#). Data as of May 29, 2026.

70%



TIM booth at 2026 Nebraska Emergency Manager Conference

TIM AT SPRING CONFERENCES

Bobbi Brooks, NDOT's Highway Emergency Program Specialist and TIM Coordinator, participated in various conferences this spring, including the Fire Chiefs Leadership Symposium, the Nebraska Association of Emergency Management Conference, the Nebraska Emergency Service Communications Association Annual Conference, ITS Heartland, and the Annual Nebraska State Fire School, hosted by the Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Association and Fire School Committee. Bobbi contributed in ways that fit each event's needs, from hosting a TIM information booth to presenting on the TIM program.

Would you like TIM representation at an upcoming conference or event? Reach out to Bobbi via email at bobbi.brooks@nebraska.gov or by phone at 402-479-3878.

Are you presenting TIM at a conference, school fair, or other event? Check out the Nebraska TIM website's [resource section](#) for materials you can share.



Thank you to [Delta Fire and Safety](#) for providing Bobbi with a high-visibility safety vest at Fire School to promote the use of HVSA!

JUNE STATEWIDE VIRTUAL MEETING

The Nebraska TIM Statewide Virtual Meeting on June 17 featured:



Driver Behavior & Grant Funding: Collaborating with Nebraska's Highway Safety Office

NDOT's Highway Safety Office (HSO) develops and implements strategies to reduce the state's traffic-related injury and fatality rates, typically through traffic safety grants focused on driver behavior topics such as impaired driving, occupant protection, speed, and education for young drivers. The HSO's efforts and TIM programs are closely aligned and rely on engaged stakeholders to implement these strategies. This session provided an introduction to the HSO, its staff, and the available traffic safety grants.



Hazmat Response Best Practices

Hazardous materials incidents on Nebraska roadways vary widely in scale and complexity, requiring adaptable yet coordinated TIM strategies to provide for responder safety, protect the environment, and restore traffic flow efficiently. This session covered best practices for managing hazmat events, from minor spills that Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER)-trained tow professionals can safely handle to larger, more complex incidents that require coordination with agencies such as the Nebraska Fire Marshals and oversight from the Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment (DWEE) for cleanup. The focus was on incident assessment, responder safety, and common challenges encountered during these incidents.



Statewide Updates

Bobbi Brooks presented current program activities, including training, resources, and upcoming meeting opportunities.

Save the Date! The next [Nebraska TIM Statewide Virtual Meeting](#) will be held on September 16, 2026, at 10 a.m. CT/ 9 a.m. MT!

Nebraska TIM: Safer, Together



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