

## Ohio becomes first state to implement mandatory TAT training for CDLs

*Ohio State Highway Patrol views professional truck drivers as partners in a new effort to combat human trafficking.* The fall newsletter from Truckers Against Trafficking reports that beginning January 2016, every driver issued a CDL in Ohio will be given a TAT wallet card, and all new CDL drivers will be provided a one-hour training program.

In September, Capt. Mike Crispen of the Licensing and Commercial Standards of the Ohio State Highway Patrol completed a train-the-trainer program with CDL instructors from around the state. Crispen used a PowerPoint with notes supplied by Truckers Against Trafficking and modified by OSHP for their state.

“It’s important drivers understand the signs, so they can call when they witness trafficking. It’s also important to educate them on the issue, because my experience has shown that they take the issue seriously,” Crispen was quoted as saying.

“The notice of the addition of TAT training, including a copy of the TAT training DVD, went out with the notice of annual training which ODPS sends,” Crispen shared. “Some trainers and schools took advantage to start showing the TAT video in addition to current required topics.”

In Michigan, while full TAT training hasn’t yet been implemented for CDL licensing, TAT wallet cards have been added to the CDL drivers training handbook given to all CDL applicants.

“It is our desire to see all states add TAT training as a mandatory part of the curriculum for CDL licensing,” said Kendis Paris, TAT executive director. “As Capt. Crispen mentioned, with training, drivers are vital partners to state patrol officers in the fight against human trafficking.”

Copyright © OOIDA

Comments

---