

Ambulance Transport Safety Summit

Bridging the gap between what we do and what is known

EMS Subcommittee of the TRB Ambulance Transport Safety Summit
Jon Swanson, MEMS, Little Rock, AR

October 29th, 2009



Economic Benefit

- Insurance savings
- Maintenance
- Legal



325 Mishap

- Running hot, arriving on scene
- 6:54 AM, weather not a factor
- Chest pain call at "2nd and Bishop"
- Looking for chest pain patient outside w/ security
- Slowed at previous intersection, pickup waited for us to pass, turned left and followed, overtook unit
- Black box showed siren off, left turn signal on
- Unit turned right and clipped left rear of pickup



Road Safety International

File Name: 325no06.6al From: 11/05/06 19:54:49
 Vehicle Class: FORD To: 11/06/06 08:12:52
 Vehicle: 325

1 Minute Second by Second

11/06/06	:30	:45	:00
IGNIT	[REDACTED]		
L.TUR	[REDACTED]		
R.TUR	[REDACTED]		
BRAK	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
SPOT	[REDACTED]		
REVE	[REDACTED]		
P.BR	[REDACTED]		
EMR	[REDACTED]		
SIRE	[REDACTED]		
SEAT	[REDACTED]		

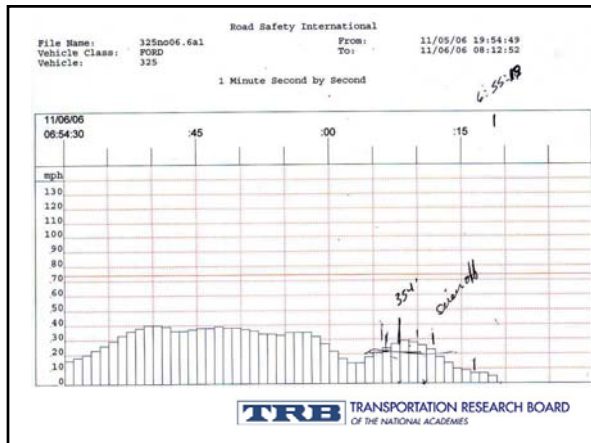
Jury Trial

- Law states lights and sirens must be on
- We agreed:
 - Crew turned off siren
 - Indicated a left turn
- Crew rolled down window to listen
- Saw patient on the right and began turning right



Jury Trial

- Other party claimed:
 - Waited and checked for another emergency vehicle
 - Assumed call was cancelled when siren turned off
 - Never exceeded 25 mph
 - Crew looked confused as he passed
- Other assertions regarding injury, treatment and punitive damages claim



Outcome

- He lost the case



Summary

- What we know
- What we don't know
- What we need to know



Questions??

- Please raise your hand or type in the message box

