

JAMES A. OVERTON
Traffic Safety Consultants, Inc.

Gaskins Centre I
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EXPERIENCE

Over 11 years experience in traffic crash investigation, reconstruction and analysis. Specialist in commercial vehicle crashes and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations.

State Police Trooper II, Virginia State Police, 6/99-4/05

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

Associate Degree in General Studies, Southside Virginia Community College, Keysville, VA, 7/98

CERTIFICATIONS

Certificate of Full Accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Traffic Accident Reconstruction - Registration #1847

Certified Crash Data Retrieval (CDR) Technician

Certified Crash Data Retrieval (CDR) Data Analyst

Certified CDL class B operator

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

Graduate of the Virginia State Police Academy- 99th Session, 1/2000

On-Scene Accident Investigation- VA State Police, 9/01

Advanced Traffic Crash Investigation- Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North FL, Richmond, VA 8/03

Traffic Crash Reconstruction- Institute of Police Technology and Management, Richmond, VA, 10/03

Commercial Vehicle Accident Investigation- The Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North FL, Richmond, VA, 5/06

Complying with Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations- Update of the changes of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, Transportation Risk Management Services, LLC, Williamsburg, VA, 2/06

Cummins Insite Qualification Course- Factory training and qualification on use of Cummins Insite computer program for data retrieval from Cummins diesel engine electronic control modules. Training included detailed data on functions, parameters and capabilities of Cummins ECMs. Training resulted in certification by Cummins. Cummins Atlantic Training Center, Charlotte, NC, 10/06

Total Station Training, Level I and II-
Certified Total Station operator for collecting data and creating forensic scene maps in crash investigation, VA State Police, 8/04

Vetronix Crash Data Retrieval System Training- Training covering system operational parameters, data formats, uses and limitations, 10/05

DNA Collection Training, VA State Police

VISTA FX3 Accident Reconstruction and Animation Software Training-
Training on the capabilities of the Vista FX3 release of the Visual Statement Software. Training included use as an advanced diagramming tool, Vista Crash Analysis, Real Motion 2D and 3D Animations of analysis data, Photo FX module which allows placement of photos from outside sources into the work product, Hawkeye Photo Rectification module which supports photo analysis applications, Simulation module and extensive data base of data needed for various types of analysis - Visual Statements, Inc. - Richmond, VA 1/07

Advanced Commercial Vehicle Crash Investigation- A detailed analysis of commercial motor vehicle dynamics and its application to traffic crash reconstruction. Topics included kinetic energy, ABS air brake systems, speed analysis using gear reduction ratios, low speed/high speed off-tracking, dynamic roll propensities, axle weight distribution using equilibrium and free body diagrams and liquid load analysis, Institute of Police Technology and Management, University of North Florida, Downers Grove, IL, 5/07

Event Data Recorder (EDR) Capabilities and Validation Issues- Topics included a brief overview of EDR capabilities in Commercial Motor Vehicles and in passenger vehicles. The importance of analysis and validation of the data recovered from the EDR's. Examples of how the recorded data from the EDR may not be connected with the crash in question. Sponsored by the Richmond Claims Association. Richmond, VA, 5/09

Bendix Air Brakes Training School- Featured a curriculum that includes the fundamentals of compressed air; tactics for air system failure mode diagnosis and troubleshooting; and air brake system and foundation brake components, including air compressors, valves, foundation drum brake and air disc brakes, slack adjusters, brake chambers, shoes and drums. This course incorporates description, operation, and service elements for the total range of components found within dual air brake systems. Additional topics covered include antilock braking systems (ABS) and stability technologies such as Bendix ESP, Engine City Technician School, South Plainfield, NJ, 6/09

2009 Virginia Trucking Association Annual Conference- Featured updates on transportation laws in Virginia and across the nation; process of what should be done after a commercial vehicle crash; updates on EFCA and how to stay non-union; EDR update including capabilities and validation issues. Sponsored by the Virginia Trucking Association, Richmond, VA, 9/09.

2009 NAPARS Combined Annual Accident Reconstruction Conference- Featured an emphasis on Heavy Vehicle Crash Reconstruction and a Commercial Motor Vehicle crash test. Topics included updates on ECM (Electronic Control Module) data extraction and analysis, Electronic and GPS type sources available on trucks today that can assist in a Commercial Motor Vehicle crash, Newton's Laws with special applications to trucks, forensic mapping and sources available today that may assist in mapping crash scenes, air brakes and air brake calculations. Hosted by NAPARS, Ocean City, MD 10/09

Crash Data Retrieval (CDR) Technician Certification- Bosch approved training in exploring how to properly obtain crash data from the ACM and PCM. Topics included, but not limited to: the overall operation of the CDR System to include evaluation of the vehicle being examined for download and application of the software and hardware to that vehicle, functions of the CDR program (program navigation, sections, components, mechanics of the download), DLC and direct-to-module connection methods from start-to-finish, access considerations for the PCM, ACM and ROS, troubleshooting and solving hardware and software issues when using the Bosch CDR System, techniques on how to collect the crash data from modules without spoliation issues and how to support a collision analyst who would be using the data from a Bosch Crash Data Retrieval System report as part of their crash analysis. – Collision Safety Institute, Chantilly, VA, 02/10

Crash Data Retrieval (CDR) Data Analyst Certification- Bosch approved training to understand the function of various control modules to evaluate and deploy appropriate safety systems and when possible, record crash data. Topics included, but not limited to: the history and evolution of the EDR (Event Data Recorder), understanding and identifying various anomalies that can occur with airbag control modules, general legal considerations (criminal and civil) related to CDR data admissibility, general types of data collected from GM, Ford and Chrysler vehicles accessible using the most current version of the Bosch CDR System, interpreting and using the accessible GM, Ford and Chrysler vehicle CDR reports with a complete collision reconstruction – Collision Safety Institute, Chantilly, VA, 02/10

2010 Virginia Trucking Association Annual Conference- Topics included Driver Distraction Studies, CSA 2010 and it's affect on the Trucking Industry, CSA Scorecard Technology, CSA Compliance and Legislative Updates. Sponsored by the Virginia Trucking Association, Blacksburg, VA, 04/10

2010 Combined Annual Conference on Trailer Underride Collision Reconstruction hosted by Maryland Association of Traffic Accident Investigators. Topics included Underride crash testing, Side Underride Analysis, Vision and Vehicle Headlight Optics, Low Light Forensic Photography, Commercial Vehicle Conspicuity Requirements, Commercial Vehicle Rollovers, and Investigating Sudden Acceleration Incidents and Crashes, Ocean City, MD, 10/10

MEMBERSHIPS

- Virginia State Police Association
- Piedmont Law Enforcement Association
- Illinois Association of Technical Accident Investigators (IATAI)
- National Association of Professional Accident Reconstruction Specialists (NAPARS)
- National Association of Traffic Accident Reconstructionists and Investigators (NATARI)
- Virginia Trucking Association (VTA)

SPECIALIZED ACTIVITIES

Served on the Accident Reconstruction Team for Division 3 of the Virginia State Police

TRAINING/PRESENTATIONS

“Commercial Vehicle / Fleet Safety”

Lectures to management personnel and complete safety audit review,
The Contractor Yard, VA, WV, MD, TN, NC, SC, FL 2006, 2007

“Commercial Vehicle / Fleet Safety”

Lectures to management personnel, drivers, and complete safety audit review,
Strober, Inc., VA, MD, DE, 2007

“Virginia Courts and Expert Witness Testimony - Overview of an example case involving the Conservation of Momentum” presented to attorneys and support staff of Bowman and Brooke, LLP, Richmond, VA 7/09

“Basic Accident Reconstruction and why a Accident Reconstructionist should be considered in your case” presented to the Blue Goose Association, Richmond, VA 11/09

Updated: 2/4/11