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# STATE OF MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

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February 5, 1987

In the last year on Missouri highways, there were over 10,000 traffic crashes, nearly 8,000 injuries, and 243 deaths due to drinking and driving. Unfortunately, these figures are underestimates. There were an additional 2,500 traffic accidents where alcohol involvement was unknown.

The number of alcohol related traffic deaths in Missouri increased 32 percent. There was also an increase in traffic injuries due to alcohol. While these statistics are striking, they do not adequately communicate the personal tragedy and suffering involved or the indirect social costs.

In Missouri, Alcohol Related Traffic Offenders' Programs (ARTOPs) have been established as one response to the serious drinking and driving problem. ARTOP is an educational program that covers a required curriculum and has a minimum length of ten hours. The program also functions to identify problem drinkers and recommend referral for further treatment. The role of the Department of Mental Health is to approve ARTOP programs which meet certain standards. ARTOPs had over 17,000 participants during the last fiscal year. However, this represents less than half of the number arrested for various drinking and driving offenses.

I am pleased to present this first ARTOP Annual Report. I hope it furthers awareness and discussion of the drinking and driving problem. There is still much that needs to be done to reduce this serious problem.

Further information about ARTOP standards and approval can be obtained from Robert McClain, Certification Specialist, at (314) 751-4942.

Sincerely,

SU

Lois Olson

LO:BBM:db

# ARTOP ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 1986

(July 1, 1985 - June 30, 1986)

### Drinking and Driving in Missouri

# **Traffic Accidents**

Drinking and driving on Missouri highways during Fiscal Year 1986 resulted in:

o 7% of the traffic crashes

10,511 traffic crashes involved a drinking driver.

o 24% of traffic deaths

243 traffic deaths involved a drinking driver. This is a 32% increase over the number of deaths due to drinking in the preceding year. The rate of increase was only 9% for traffic deaths where there was no alcohol involved.

o 13% of traffic injuries

7,858 traffic injuries involved a drinking driver. This is a 6% increase over the number of injuries due to drinking in the preceding year.

- o Accidents caused by a drinking driver are more dangerous. 49% of such accidents involve injury or death compared to a rate of 27% for nondrinking accidents.
- o Drugs were a contributing circumstance in an additional 11 highway deaths and 300 injuries. There were 453 traffic crashes which involved a drugged driver.

These figures are based on traffic accidents where the reporting officer noted whether or not there was alcohol involved. These figures are underestimates because alcohol involvement is unknown in 13% of the traffic accidents (4% of traffic deaths, 9% of traffic injuries, 14% of traffic crashes).

#### Arrests

o There were 35,834 arrests for drinking and driving. This figure is for Calendar Year 1985, the latest period for which data is available. The number of arrests declined 13% from the preceding year.

## Convictions

- o There were 21,327 convictions for various drinking and driving offenses. This also is a 13% decline.
- o 11,421 convictions were prosecuted under state law. 9,906 convictions were prosecuted under local ordinances.

Licensure Suspensions and Revocations

o 13,057 licenses were suspended in Fiscal Year 1986 under DWI Administrative Revocation. This is a 3% increase from the preceding year.

o 3,921 licenses were revoked. This is a 21% increase.

Profile of the Drinking Driver

o In cases convicted under state law:

- 9,807 were first offenders (86%)
  1,317 were second offenders (13%)
  289 were persistent offenders (1%)
- o 85% of drinking drivers involved in traffic crashes are male.
- o 50% of the drinking drivers are age 18-30. The median age is 27. The average age is 30.

## Background of ARTOP

- o Section 577.049 became law in August 1982 and established Alcohol or Drug Related Traffic Offenders' Programs (ARTOPs). The court <u>may</u> order completion of an approved ARTOP upon conviction for a first offense of "driving while intoxicated" or "driving with excessive blood alcohol content." Standards for ARTOPs have been established by the Department of Mental Health and the Department of Public Safety. These standards mandate a program to be at least 10 hours in length, to cover a required curriculum, and to fulfill the objectives of education, assessment and referral of problem drinkers. The Governor designated the responsibility of approving ARTOPs to the Department of Mental Health, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse. The approval process began July 1, 1983.
- o Section 577.023 became law in May 1984 and required a prior offender to serve a minimum of 48 consecutive hours imprisonment, or 40 hours of community service, before becoming eligible for parole. This legislation initiated the development of 48-hour weekend programs. A primary difference between the 48hour program and the 10-hour ARTOP is a greater emphasis on assessment, referral, and group process. There are currently seven organizations which operate 48-hour programs.
- o Section 302.540 became law in August 1984 and expanded the role of ARTOPs. This chapter provided for the suspension or revocation of an offenders drivers license if the blood alcohol concentration is .13% or more. One of the conditions for reinstatement of the license is completion of an ARTOP.

## ARTOP Annual Report Data

o At the end of Fiscal Year 1986 there were 62 organizations operating ARTOPs. Sixteen of these operated multiple program sites. There were a total of 111 actual program sites. Of the 62 organizations operating ARTOPs, 25 are also certified substance abuse treatment programs.

- o There were a total of 17,208 referrals to ARTOPs. Nearly 90% of those referred successfully completed the 10-hour program. The largest referral source was Municipal Courts, which accounted for 47% of the total referrals.
- o There were 1,394 ARTOP courses held in Fiscal Year 1986. These courses were provided by 269 instructors, the majority of whom worked in ARTOPs on a part-time basis. The average course fee was \$90.
- o The profile of those who attended ARTOPs is nearly identical to the profile of the drinking driver. 85% are male. The average age is 31. Comparable data for the two groups is not available for other demographic categories.

## ARTOP Trends

- o The number of referrals to ARTOPs dropped by 12% in Fiscal Year 1986. This decline corresponds to the 13% decline in the number of arrests and also convictions for DWI offenses.
- o A greater percentage of ARTOP referrals were prompted by Administrative Revocation than in the past. There was a 3% increase in the number of drivers license suspensions.
- o There has been an increase in the number of approved ARTOPs, ARTOP courses held, and instructors, despite the decline in the number of ARTOP referrals. The number of approved ARTOPs has grown from 57 to 62 in the past fiscal year. 105 additional courses were held. The number of instructors has risen from 177 to 269.
- o The number of 48-hour weekend programs for second offenders has increased from two to seven.
- o 48% of those arrested for DWI offenses participate in an ARTOP. This figure has been constant the past two years. The most recent data is depicted in the following table:



Table 1

Number of Arrests, Convictions, and ARTOP Participants

# Table 2 - ARTOP Annual Report Data

		FY'86	<u>FY'85</u>	<u>FY'84</u>
Α.	Total Number of Referrals	17,208	19,583	14,053
Β.	Referrals by Source Municipal Court Associate Circuit Court Administrative Revocation Circuit Court Probation and Parole Other	47% 20% 17% 7% 4% 5%	49% 31% 10% 4% 2%	49% 38%  5% 5% 3%
<b>C.</b> ,	Rate of Completion Successful Completion Incomplete/Unsuccessful Other	87% 12% 1%	90% 8% 2%	87% 12% 1%
D.	Number of ARTOP Courses	1,394	1,289	1,057
Ε.	Number of ARTOP Instructors	269	177	158
F.	Average Fee	\$88	\$75	\$80
G.	Race White Black Other	88% 10% 2%	86% 13% 1%	93% 6% 1%
Η.	Sex Male Female	85% 15%	86% 14%	88% 12%
· I.	Average Age	31	. 30	30
J.	Average Years of Education	12	12	12
К.	Average Income	\$12,840	\$12,800	\$11,470
L.	Marital Status Married Divorced/Separated Never Married	39% 24% 37%	37% 24% 39%	37% 23% 40%
Μ.	Employment Status Employed Full Time Employed Part Time Student Unemployed	69% 11% 5% 15%	69% 11% 5% 15%	68% 9% 5% 18%

BMC:1dh 1/20/87