



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 380		DATE: 2/9/2021
COMMITTEE: Public Safety		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: DALE H. ROBERTS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-355-3513
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: THE COLUMBIA POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 1301 VANDIVER DR., #102		
CITY: COLUMBIA	STATE: MO	ZIP: 65202
EMAIL: cpoadirector@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2021 7:13 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

As explained to me by the folks on the street, 1. a motor vehicle accident with fatality occurs on I-70 or Hwy 63. 2. Traffic backs up for miles, and just sits there. 3. Officers cannot clear the scene until the Medical Examiner or Forensic Investigator arrives and performs their duties. 4. But the Medical Examiner or Forensic Investigator cannot get to the scene to do their work because a. Drivers in the long line of waiting traffic won't let their (unmarked / personal) vehicle past (to get up to the scene).b. Similarly, most officers won't let the (unmarked / personal) vehicle of the Medical Examiner or Forensic Investigator cut through the traffic (because they don't realize who it is) c. So many Medical Examiners tell me they have to park and walk to the officer directing traffic (all the while getting yelled at "GET BACK IN YOUR CAR") then once identified, get back to their vehicle and (now that law enforcement knows who is in that vehicle, they can finally drive up to the scene of the fatality to do their job. 5. meanwhile, law enforcement, fire, EMS, sometimes MoDOT workers, all stand around unable to clear the scene (and many times, let traffic move!) while waiting for the medical examiner to get through to the scene. 6. and of course, lots of drivers and sitting their, idling their engines and burning gas, waiting for something to happen, so they can pass. But no one is going anywhere until the examiner gets there to perform their function. One simple solution would eliminate all this, it would get officers, firefighters, EMS, all back to their normal duties quicker, and allow motorists to be on their way much sooner, and maybe even eliminate some of the secondary motor vehicle accidents that occur when arriving traffic rear-ends the vehicles sitting there waiting...



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: STACEY HUCK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: staceyhuck@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2021 7:35 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

My name is Stacey huck and I am a death investigator for Boone and Callaway county's medical examiner's office. I have been in this field for over 10 years. In the 10 years of work I have been on countless fatal car crash scenes and in almost all of them have encountered angry drivers running me off the road thinking I'm just trying to "get through" along with close encounters of my personal vehicle being struck by drivers. In accidents where heavy traffic runs, we are last to the scene. The term "last responder" is a true title for this line of work. Traffic congestion prevents us from getting to the scene which in turn delays the opening of the roadway and removing a person who has lost their life from the eyes of every driver/passenger passing through the scene. During these situations drivers become irritated because of the delay and in some situations quite hostile. In several instances I have been run off the shoulder by vehicles trying to prevent me from passing them with my flashers on. I have been cussed at, flipped off and ran off the road more times than I can count from people who don't understand why I am trying to pass. In other situations I have been forced to get out of my car and knock on windows to explain why I need to get around that car blocking the shoulder. A properly marked car prevents confusion, delays, confrontations and possible dangerous situations. It is my hope that with lights we would be able to safely work through traffic congestion as we are easily identified and seen. I greatly appreciate the willingness of everyone to listen and hear the concerns we have. Thank you