



# Serious Traffic Offender Program



**Revoked**

**Suspended**





# Moore vs. Martin Fatal June 26, 2004







# Moore vs. Martin Fatal June 26, 2004



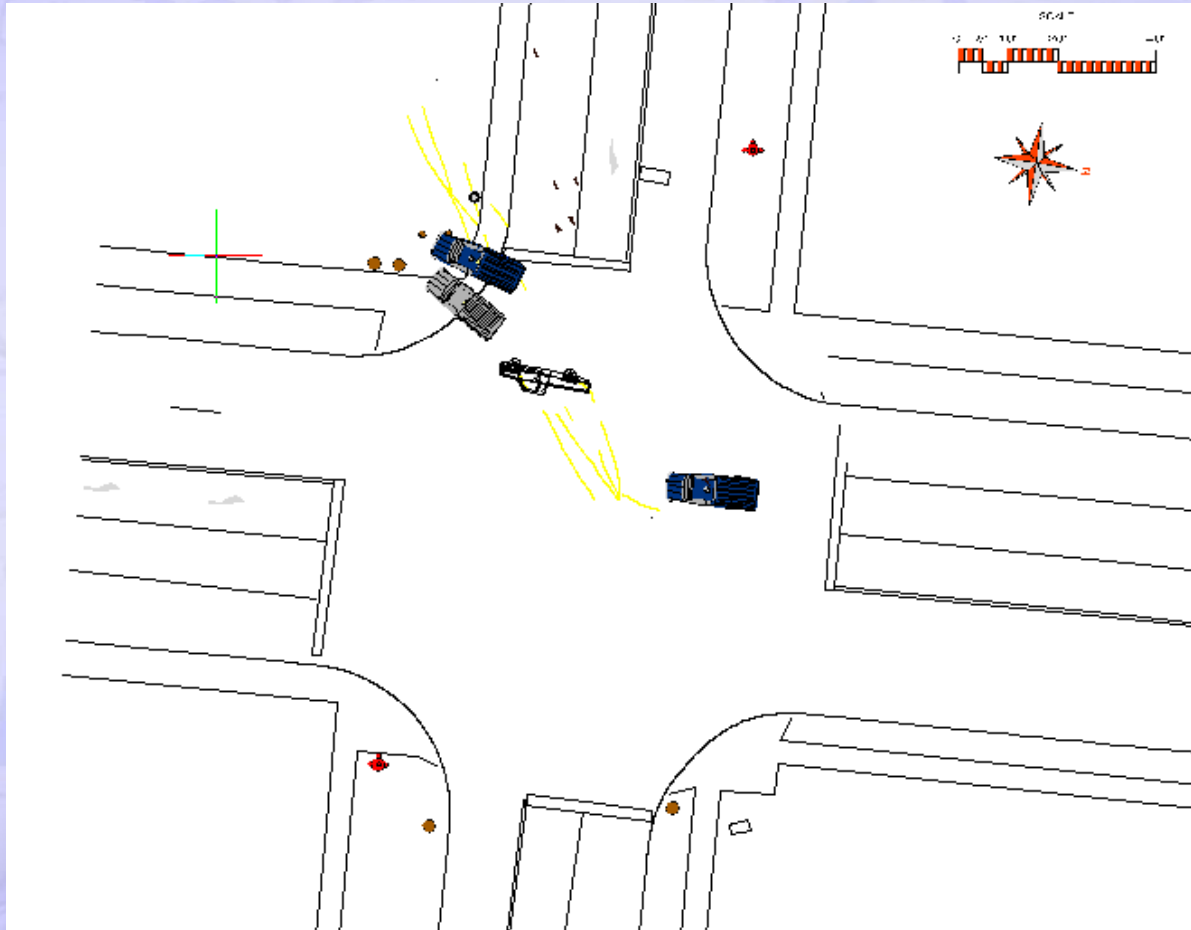


# Moore vs. Martin Fatal June 26, 2004





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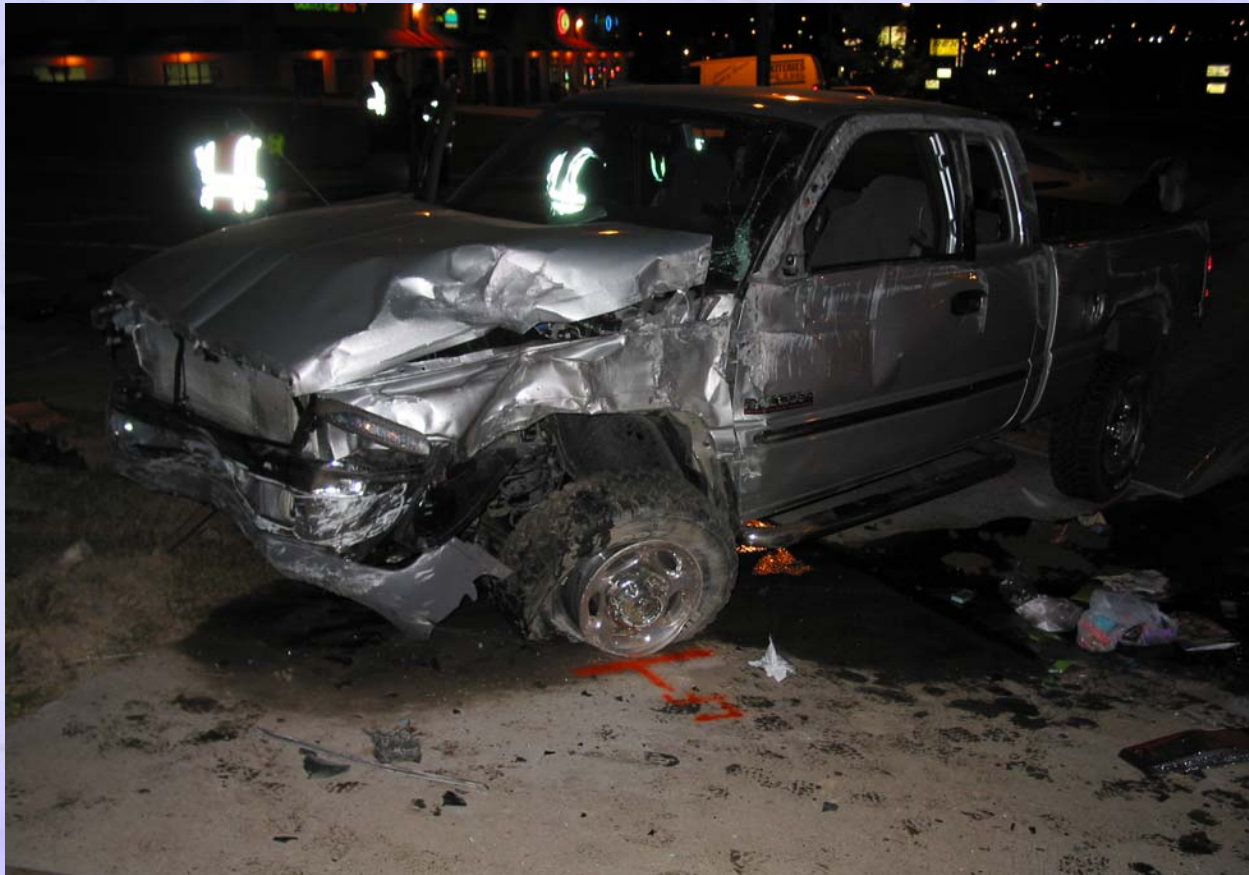






# Moore vs. Martin Fatal

## June 26, 2004





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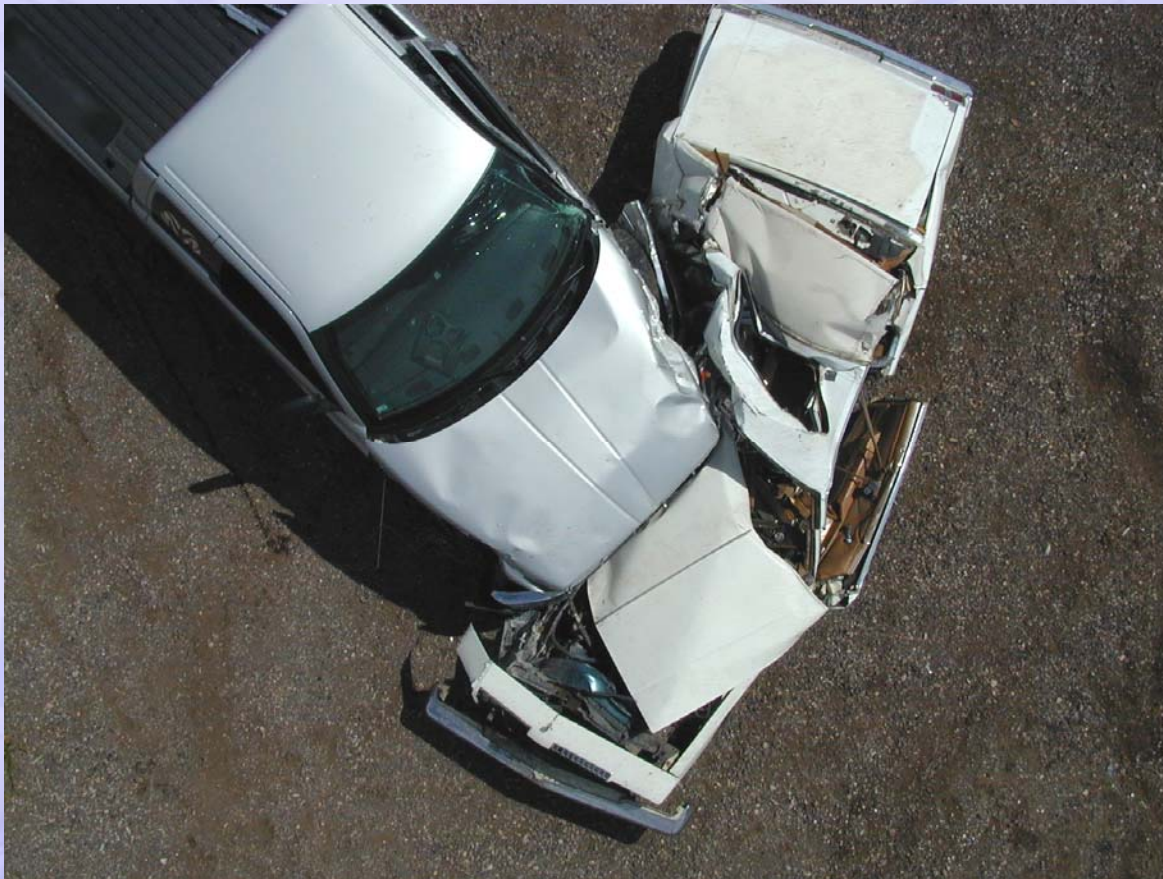


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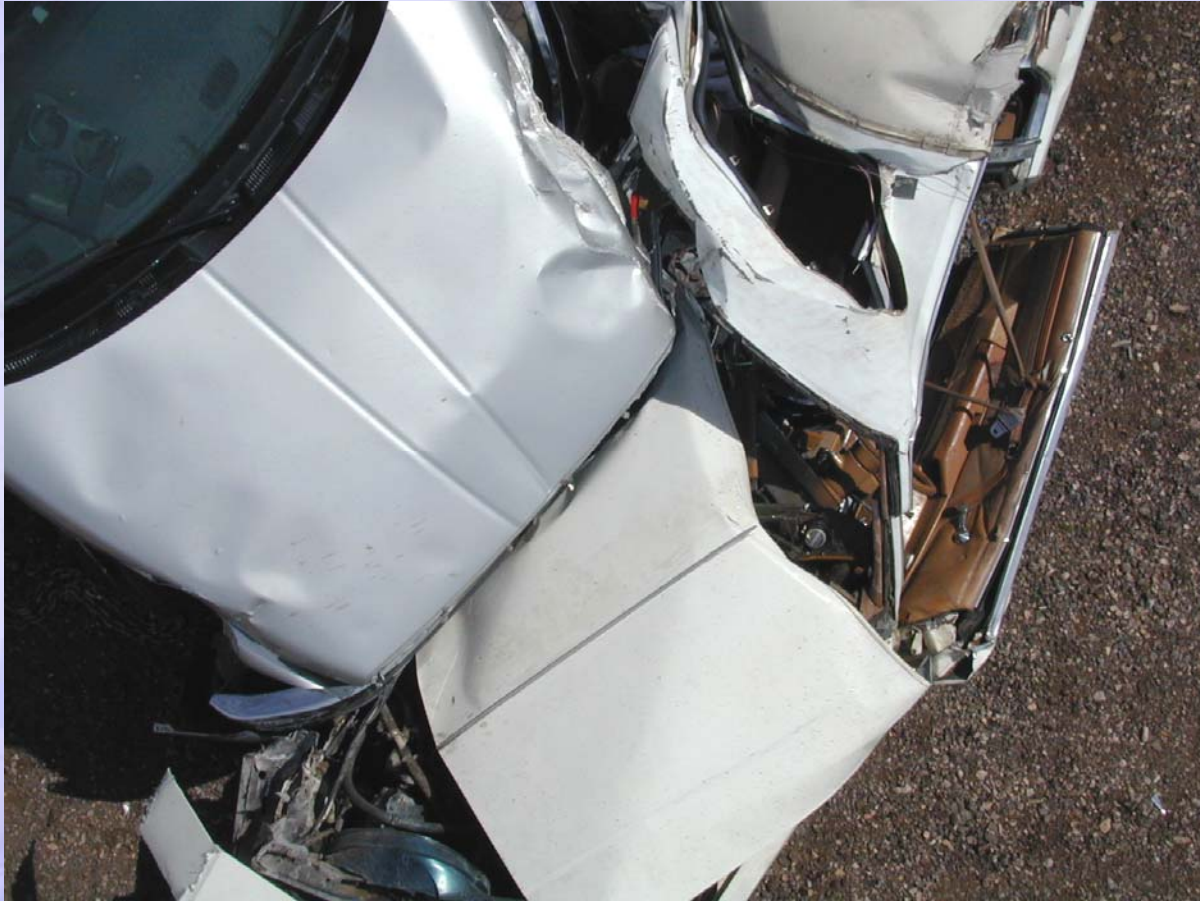
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# STOP IMPLEMENTATION

- In 2004 Rapid City, SD had six fatal crashes
- Out of those six fatal crashes, there was a Suspended or Revoked Driver involved in four out of those six fatal crashes
- That in turn means there was no insurance for those vehicles as well
- The Rapid City Police Department reviewed the issue and decided to target suspended and revoked drivers
- The Police Department wrote a grant to the South Dakota Office of Highway Safety requesting a grant to fund a STOP Officer and a Sergeant to administer and oversee the program





# **STOP IMPLEMENTATION**

- **All licensed drivers in Pennington County had a license status check done**
- **1,350 drivers in Pennington County had SUSPENDED OR REVOKED licenses**
- **Because of the number of Suspended and Revoked Licenses, a plan was developed to have a manageable number**
- **It was decided to target the most dangerous drivers**



# STOP IMPLEMENTATION

- Drivers' histories were run for a five year period
- Points were assigned as follows
  - DWI 5 Points
  - DUR 5 Points
  - DUS 5 Points
  - Reckless Driving 4 Points
  - Careless Driving 3 Points
  - Speeding Offenses 3 Points
  - Stop Signs & Red Lights 2 Points





# **STOP IMPLEMENTATION**

- **With points assigned, a “TOP 100” list was formed**
- **Also, a “2<sup>nd</sup> 100” list was formed to track drivers who were moving up quickly**
- **The lists are run every 6 months to “refresh” the most dangerous drivers**
- **The lists are refreshed in conjunction with our semi-annual shift bids and rotations**



# **STOP IMPLEMENTATION**

- **Patrol Shifts are frequently briefed on the Top 200 Serious Offenders**
- **The TOP 10 OFFENDERS have a Traffic Officer personally assigned to them**
- **Traffic Officers will periodically make contact with the offenders at home or work as a reminder the POLICE are paying attention**
- **The goal of the program is to persuade the offenders to comply with the law**

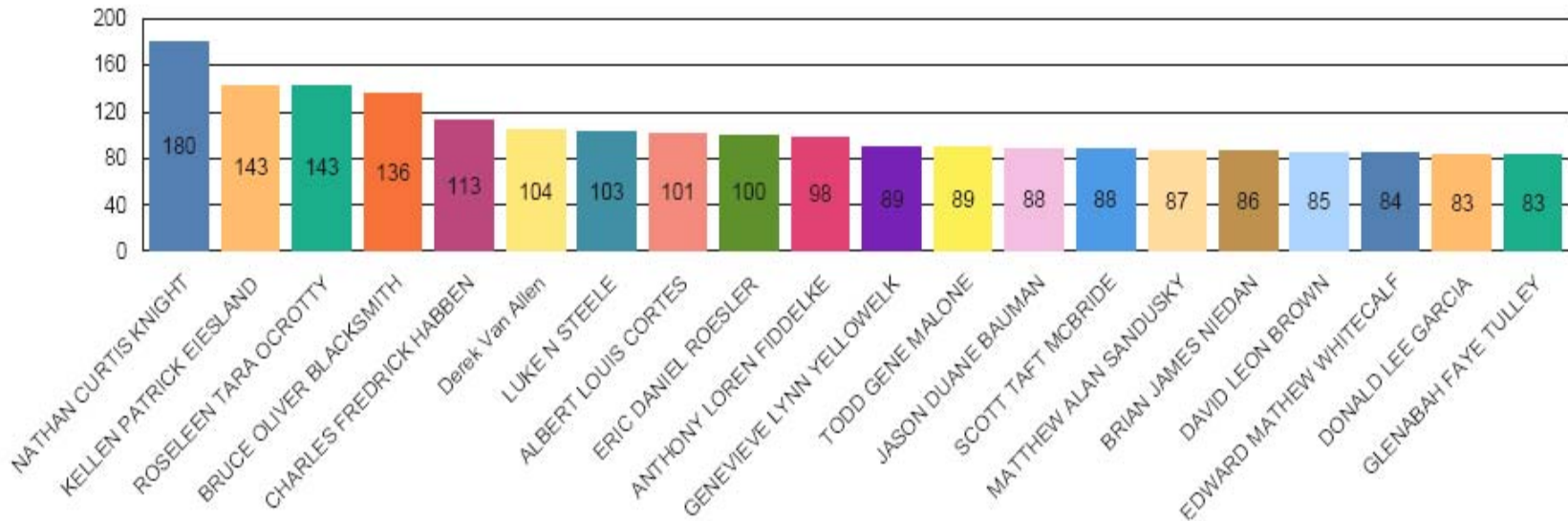




# TOP 20 OFFENDERS AS OF JANUARY 2007

## TOP 20 REVOKED & SUSPENDED DRIVERS

2002 - 2006



Data from New World



# OFFICER INVOLVEMENT

- **The key to success for the STOP Program is to get a buy-in from the street officers**
- **Officers are briefed regularly on our achievements and praised for their good work**
- **A positive for the officers is that all cars are towed unless there is a licensed, insured driver seated in the vehicle at the time of the stop**
- **Towing the vehicles ended up being very popular among the officers**





# Judicial Involvement

- **State's Attorney and Judges were introduced to the program before it was sent to the Street Officers**
- **Judges asked for a common court date**
- **State's Attorney was given a list of offenders and actually track the offenders through the court trials**
- **Mandatory Court Appearances are required for all Suspended and Revoked Drivers**



# Judicial Involvement

- **Judges agreed to harsher sentencing for the Top Offenders**
- **Offenders in the Top 200 are sentenced to one day in jail each time they are cited for DUS or DUR**
- **Offenders in the Top 100 are sentenced to two days in jail each time they are cited for DUS or DUR**
- **Offenders in the Top 10 are sentenced to five days in jail each time they are cited for DUS or DUR**





# Media & Public Relations

- To begin the STOP program, a letter was mailed to each of the Top 100 Offenders introducing them to the Program
- Local Radio and Television News Shows were used to explain the STOP Program to the Public
- The Traffic Section has a dedicated time slot once a month on a local TV Noon News show to talk about traffic issues, including STOP
- The Program was also explained to Civic Groups such as the Cosmopolitans, Morning Optimists, Rotary Club, etc.



# Enforcement Strategies

- **When an offender is stopped for DUR or DUS, they are scheduled for a common court date – every Friday Morning at 8:15**
- **The STOP Officer gets the court docket and matches the STOP offenders with the docket and puts together a document of each offender scheduled for court**
- **The Offender document contains a photo of the driver, the last vehicle the Offender was driving when they were stopped, and the license plate number.**
- **Traffic and Patrol Officers are stationed in and around the courthouse parking lot on Friday mornings to wait for the offender to drive to court – which some of them do every week!**
- **The part the judges like is they get to watch from their office windows as we tow vehicles from the courthouse parking lot**



# Enforcement Strategies







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# Enforcement Strategies

- **The Rapid City Police Department keeps BEAT books for each of our sectors**
- **The BEAT books contain information for the Patrol Officers on such things as Sex Offenders and addresses and STOP Offenders and their addresses**
- **Patrol Officers often times will sit in the area of STOP Offenders residences and do reports and watch for offenders to drive**
- **In at least one case, an Officer was doing a report in front of the home of a STOP Offender and noticed a lot of vehicle traffic briefly stopping at the offender's house. A traffic stop was done on one of the vehicle's as it left the house, and drugs were found**
- **A search warrant for that house was obtained and it was discovered the Offender was selling drugs**





# Enforcement Strategies

- As part of the strategy we also informed our tow companies on the program
- Our very first week of implementation, a suspended driver had their car towed
- The next day the offender went to the tow yard and paid to get their car out of storage
- The employee of the tow truck company that took the money from the offender for the tow happened to be the tow truck driver that initially towed the vehicle
- The tow truck driver called the police and an officer met the offender as they were leaving the tow yard
- A wrecker from a different tow company was called – because of our rotation – to tow the offender's vehicle from the driveway of one tow company to its own tow yard!





# Statistics for STOP Program November 2005 to December 2006

<u>Month</u>	<u>DUS</u>	<u>DUR</u>	<u>INS</u>	<u>TOW</u>	<u>DUI</u>	<u>ACCX</u>
Nov-05	24	8	13	13	4	0
Dec-05	133	44	85	105	34	3
Jan-06	117	35	60	88	24	3
Feb-06	78	27	42	62	12	1
Mar-06	110	39	52	87	23	4
Apr-06	103	37	57	85	36	5
May-06	96	27	62	80	31	12
Jun-06	107	45	97	102	36	9
Jul-06	109	40	90	103	30	5
Aug-06	69	35	58	64	26	6
Sep-06	30	28	38	39	19	2
Oct-06	31	36	21	48	24	6
Nov-06	45	32	30	65	23	1
Dec-06	93	26	27	54	17	0



# Statistics for STOP Program November 2005 to December 2006

## STOP Fiscal Statistics

