

Fax: (317) 233-3599

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CONTACT: Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council Connie Smith, Public Affairs Officer 317-473-3020 – cosmith1@ipac.in.gov

Vehicular Crash Reconstruction Experts Learn by Crashing

PLAINFIELD (August 25, 2016) – A live demonstration of a pedestrian/automobile crashes, Thursday morning, August 25, provided some 60 individuals, representing crash reconstruction teams of prosecutors and municipal, county and state law enforcement with an opportunity to learn crash measurement techniques.

The crash demonstration was part of a four-day training in pedestrian crash reconstruction investigation and prosecution sponsored by the Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council, along with the Indiana Association of Certified Accident Investigators and the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy. John Kwasnoski, one of the most soughtafter accident reconstructionists and police-prosecutor trainers in the country, led much of the training, including the live accident portion.

The live demonstration training began with a study of a "static" crash scene followed by two "pedestrian strikes." (The "pedestrian" was portrayed by a crash dummy.) Classroom training included crash reconstruction methodologies, event data recorder evidence, time-distance-speed analysis, utilization of victim evidence to establish crash causes and cross examination of other crash reconstruction experts.

Indiana crash reconstruction experts who assisted with the training included Mark Helms (Indiana State Police), Doug Heustis (Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department), Scott Poston (Plainfield Police Department), Kip Shuter (Warsaw Police Department) and Tim Spencer (Mishawaka Police Department). Chris Daniels, Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor for the Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council was course director.

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