# TRANSPORTATION SAFETY CAREER PATHWAY SPOTLIGHT

## Career Pathway:

Anthony is a Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) working for the New York State's Highway Safety Office – the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee (GTSC). He is assigned there by the New York State Sheriffs' Association (NYSSA). Anthony worked for the Rensselaer County Sheriff's Office for 25 years prior to retiring in 2015 to accept the LEL position.

## Becoming Involved In Safety:

The law enforcement liaison position provides an excellent pathway for Anthony and others across the country to support highway safety initiatives. The LEL program, supported by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Governor's Highway Safety Association (GHSA), offers a framework for states to have individuals in their highway safety office that enhance communications with law enforcement agencies, ensure greater coordination of crash reduction activities statewide, and coordinate training to increase the knowledge and skills of other highway safety professionals.

Having seen the results of dangerous driving first-hand as an officer, Anthony welcomed his new role in highway safety eagerly with hopes to help make a difference. He remembers the notifications he made to families of crash victims and wants to see less of those visits occur.

How do professional activities make a positive impact on society?

One of Anthony's goals at the GTSC is to make sure rural road safety is considered when highway safety plans are being made. Those plans may include the delivery of teen driver crash reduction educational materials to rural high schools or grant proposal training to Sheriff's Offices and Police Departments that are outside of cities. In 2017, Anthony coordinated the first New York State Slow Moving Vehicle Symposium hosted by the NYSSA with grant funding from GTSC. The symposium was an enormous success. There were over 90 attendees from all walks of life: agriculture was represented by the NY Farm Bureau and individual farmers; law enforcement was represented by 20 police agencies; construction was represented by people from county highway departments and public works departments; there were even representatives from the Amish community present. The focus was on ways to reduce crashes involving slow moving vehicles and how to better spread the "Share the Road" message.

Anthony would like people to have a greater appreciation for the loss of life due to motor vehicle crashes. Can we do more to prevent crashes and save lives?

#### Anthony D'Agostino

#### Organization:

New York State's Highway Safety Office – the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee

Job Title: Law Enforcement Liaison

Training/Education: The Sage Colleges – Sage College of Albany

**Degree/Certification:** B.S. in Criminal Justice

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