



TITLE VI

E-News



November 2014

Tennessee Department of Transportation Civil Rights Office

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2014 Regional Subrecipient Training Completed

The Civil Rights Office Title VI staff conducted Title VI training in Regions Two and Four on September 12th. The September trainings concluded the Title VI Program's annual goal of one Title VI training per region for the year. TDOT's subrecipients can, and do, utilize the automated online Title VI subrecipient training, however the Title VI Program staff encourages new Title VI coordinators to attend the annual Regional Title VI training.

The training enables newcomers and those wanting a refresher to interact with staff, providing answers to questions and facilitating discussions. The regional trainings provide an overview on the historical origin of Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and supporting nondiscrimination legislation that followed its enactment. Discussions on the practical application of the law, an introduction into Title VI program components, e.g., Limited English Proficiency Plan (LEP) and compliance issues are addressed.

TDOT subrecipients can register for the 2015 Title VI training(s) at: <http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/civil-rights/titlevi/training.htm>

Region 1 Knoxville	March 20, 2015
Region 2 Chattanooga	September 11, 2015
Region 3 Nashville	August 28, 2015
Region 4 Jackson	September 15, 2015

Tennessee Department of Transportation

John Schroer, Commissioner

Deborah Luter, Civil Rights Office Director

Deborah.Luter@tn.gov

Cynthia Howard, Title VI Program Director

Cynthia.Howard@tn.gov

Sylvia Odum, Title VI Program Coordinator

Sylvia.Odum@tn.gov

Pamela Sharp, Title VI Program Specialist

Pamela.Sharp@tn.gov

Kelsey Finch, Title VI Program Specialist

Kelsey.Finch@tn.gov

Peggy Nolan, Administrative Assistant

Peggy.Nolan@tn.gov

Civil Rights Office Mission Statement

The Mission of the Civil Rights Office is to ensure adherence to Equal Employment Opportunities, Title VI, Small and Disadvantaged Business Initiatives.



2014 TPTA Annual Conference & Expo

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The Civil Rights Office and the Multimodal Transportation Resources Division work collaboratively to ensure the transit providers, and TDOT's subrecipients, have well developed and implemented Civil Rights programs. Accordingly, Cynthia Howard, Title VI Program Director, and Sherree Hall Crowder, EEO/Affirmative Action Program Director, were invited to participate in the 2014 TPTA Annual Conference & Expo. This event provided them an opportunity to meet the subrecipients they work with, on a regular basis through their compliance activities.

The 2014 TPTA Annual Conference & Expo was co-hosted by the Tennessee Public Transportation Association and the Knoxville Area Transit (KAT) in beautiful east Tennessee. The event was held November 4-7 at the Knoxville Convention Center.

The conference included general sessions and workshops focused on current issues facing public transportation, featuring first-rate speakers. TDOT's own Commissioner John C. Schroer was one of those keynote speakers, discussing the current and future status of TDOT as it relates to federal funding.

The Expo served as a perfect opportunity to see transportation products, technology and services that help keep Tennessee citizens moving.



Murfreesboro "Rover" Public Transit Employee Training

In October, Title VI Specialist, Pamela Sharp provided training to the city of Murfreesboro's "Rover" public transit employees. As a subrecipient of the Tennessee Department of Transportation, "Rover" is required to have a Title VI Program in place. The transportation director, Dana Richardson and Assistant transportation director, Nellie Patton set up a specific training with Title VI as a topic on the agenda.

Sharp trained on Title VI program requirements, Federal Transit Administration Circular 4702.1b, emphasizing the need to train "Rover" employees annually on Title VI and the related nondiscrimination mandates which include, the agency's Limited English procedures and Title VI complaint procedures. Following training, the enthusiastic audience asked questions and held open discussion on the training topics.



*Right : Dana Richardson and
Left: Nellie Patton
with Murfreesboro
"Rover" public
transit*





Governor's Highway Safety Office 2014 Grantee Orientation

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Annually, the Civil Rights Office Title VI Program staff participates in the Governor's Highway Safety Office (GHSO) Grantee Orientation Workshop (GOW). This year's annual trainings were held in Jackson, Chattanooga, Nashville and Knoxville, Tennessee. Mia Vickers, Deputy Director, and Jason Ivey, Program Management Administrator, and their supporting staff developed and coordinated the training.

GOW provides the Title VI Program staff an opportunity to meet face-to-face with the grant recipients and train them on Title VI, its mandates, and what is expected of a recipient of federal funds. This training provides contact information for staff, resources, and most importantly, it serves to alleviate any confusion and undue stress that may be associated with having to develop, (a first time for many of the grantees,) a Title VI Program. The GHSO has over 400 grantees that consist of local police departments, non-profit agencies, community colleges and universities, and sheriff departments.

The grantees receive federal funding to develop and execute driver safety programs to reduce the number of fatalities, injuries and related economic losses resulting from traffic crashes on Tennessee's roadways.

The Title VI Program Staff would like to thank Kendall Poole, GHSO Director, for his office's support and commitment to ensuring nondiscrimination in federal funded programs and activities.



Title VI Specialist, Kelsey Finch presenting to the GHSO Grantees.



GHSO Grantees.

