# P.A.C.E. BEHAVIORAL DRIVING

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

System

FIFTEEN PASSENGER
VAN TRAINING

March 2007

## P.A.C.E. - Fifteen Passenger Van Driver Awareness Training

#### **Classroom Instruction**

- Collision Causation
- Vehicle Dynamics
- Safe Operation of Fifteen Passenger Vans
- P.A.C.E. Driving Techniques

#### In-Vehicle Training

- Commentary Driving
- Skills Exercise
- Vehicle Inspection

- Define Defensive Driving?
- What percent of all collisions are directly attributed to poor environmental conditions?
- How many feet does it take a fifteen passenger van to stop while driving at 50 MPH?
- How many feet / second is our vehicle covering while traveling 50 MPH?
- What is a safe following distance when traveling 50 MPH?

- What is the most desirable parking option in an open parking lot?
- While driving, how far up the road should we be examining?
- Mirrors should be examined every how many seconds?
- Operating a fully loaded fifteen passenger van may expose you to what type of collision?
- What simple safety measure could have prevented a large majority of the fifteen passenger van fatalities over the past decade?

#### **Collision Causation**

- 1. Defensive Driving
- 2. Three Elements of Traffic
- 3. Definition of a Collision
- 4. At-Risk Behaviors
- 5. At-Fault vs. Preventability
- 6. Road Rage
- 7. Staged Auto Collisions

#### **NSC Defensive Driving:**

- Controlling your vehicle
- Adjust to the environment
- Compensate for the incorrect actions of others

#### P.A.C.E. Definition for Safe Driving

"The best way to avoid a crash is not to drive into one"

Plan Ahead

Analyze the surroundings

**Communicate** with others

**E**xecute safe driving

**YOURSELF** 

**Three Elements That Make Up Traffic?** 

VEHICLES

ENVIRONMENT

PEOPLE

How does each element lead to collisions?

#### What Is a Collision?

A vehicle colliding with another is not considered an accident!

Accidents occur without the control of those involved.

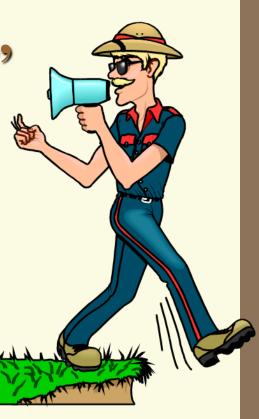
Collisions (crashes) occur as a result of the incorrect actions of one or more parties.

#### How do people cause crashes?

- Less than favorable choices
- Incorrect actions
- **AT-RISK BEHAVIORS**

90% of all crashes can be directly attributed to the incorrect behaviors of drivers

"At-Risk Behaviors"
(unsafe acts) cause
more crashes than
unsafe conditions.



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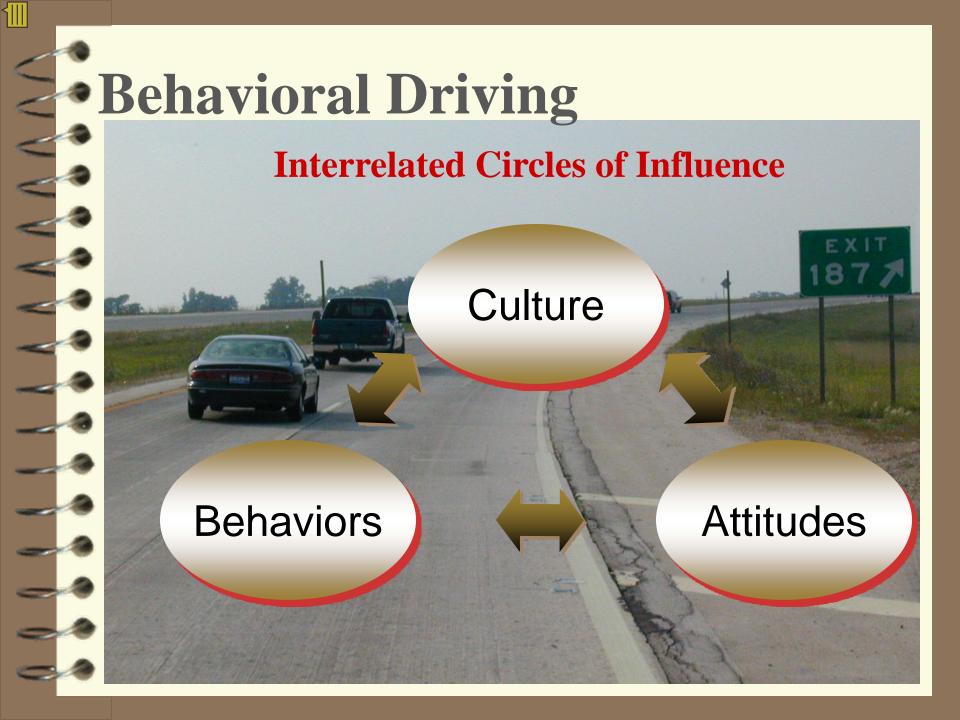
**Fatalities** 

Injuries / Collisions

Near Misses

**At-Risk Behaviors** 

Most at-risk behaviors do not result in crashes



#### **Risk Taking Exercise**



Rank from 1 (least significant) to 5 (most significant).

\_\_\_\_\_ Pre-tripping your vehicle

\_\_\_\_\_Stopping for a red light at busy intersection

\_\_\_\_ Leaving on-time for an appointment

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone conversation with boss while driving

\_\_\_\_\_ Driving the speed limit

#### AT-FAULT vs. PREVENTABILITY

At-Fault Collision - Determination of who is liable for the collision

Preventable Collision - Determination of whether a party involved executed every possible action to avoid the collision

#### Road Rage

To what extent have you experienced it?

How to avoid?

How to deal with the irate driver?



#### Road Rage - "To What Extent Have You Experienced It"

#### LEVEL SYMPTOMS

- 1 Mentally condemn other drivers
- 2 Verbally denigrate other drivers to passenger in you car
- 3 Closing ranks to deny someone entering your lane
- 4 Giving another driver a dirty look
- 5 Speeding past another car or revving your engine as a sign of protest
- 6 Preventing another driver from passing
- 7 Tailgating or pressuring a driver to go faster or get out of the way
- 8 Fantasizing physical violence against another driver
- 9 Honking or yelling at someone through the window
- 10 Making a visible obscene gesture at another driver
- 11 Using your car to retaliate by making sudden, threatening maneuvers
- 12 Pursuing another car in chase
- 13 Getting out of the car and engaging in verbal abuse
- 14 Carrying a weapon in the car in case you decide to use it
- 15 Deliberately bumping or ramming another car
- 16 Trying to run another car off the road to punish the driver
- 17 Getting out of the car and beating or battering someone
- 18 Trying to run someone down
- 19 Shooting at another car
- 20 Killing someone

1-3	The unfriendly zone
4-7	The hostile zone
8-11	The violent zone
12-16	The lesser mayhem zone
17-20	The major mayhem zone

### Methods of staging auto accidents

A ring leader, typically a corrupt attorney or physician, hires a 'capper,' a street-level collision coordinator. The capper recruits passengers, called 'stuffers,' promising them money. After the orchestrated accident, the capper refers the stuffers to an unethical lawyer and/or a crooked doctor. The doctor writes bills for 'treatment' of nonexistent injuries. The lawyer negotiates a settlement with the insurers of the cooperating stuffers. The ring leader collects insurance payments and pays the capper and stuffers, but keeps the lion's share for himself.

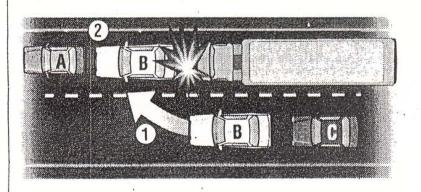
#### Protect yourself against staged collisions

Auto insurance companies suggest:

- ► Don't tailgate.
- ► Call police to the scene for an accident report.
- Carry a disposable camera to photograph damage and occupants of the other car.

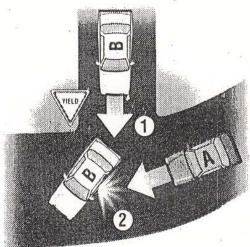
#### Types of staged accidents

Swoop and squat



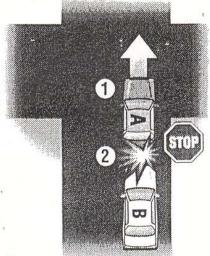
- A team of three cars surrounds a truck. Car B moves in front of the truck while Car C blocks its side.
- Car A hits the brakes and Car B stops short, causing the truck to rear-end Car B. Car A leaves the scene.

#### Drive down



- Car A, having the right-ofway, yields it to Car B.
- Car A then accelerates and hits Car B.

#### Start and stop



- 1 Car A moves forward after stopping at a light or sign.
- Car A then slams on the brakes, forcing Car B to rear-end it.

#### **Vehicle Dynamics**

- 1. Driving Distractions
- 2. Traction
- 3. Skid Control & Recovery
- 4. Stopping Distances
- 5. Backing

#### **Vehicle Characteristics**

"Operating a vehicle requires your undivided attention"

#### **Common driving distractions:**

- •Cell phone use
- Map reading
- Eating
- •Reading memos, sales reports, newspapers, etc.
- •Communicating with others in the vehicle

#### **Traction**

- What affects traction?
- What surface allows for best traction?
  - Stopped Vehicle
  - Dry Concrete
  - Wet
  - Snow covered
  - Icy
  - Skidding Wheel

#### **Skid Control & Recovery**

What causes skids?

- Power skids vs. deceleration skids
- Skidding wheels always tend to lead

#### **Stopping Distances**

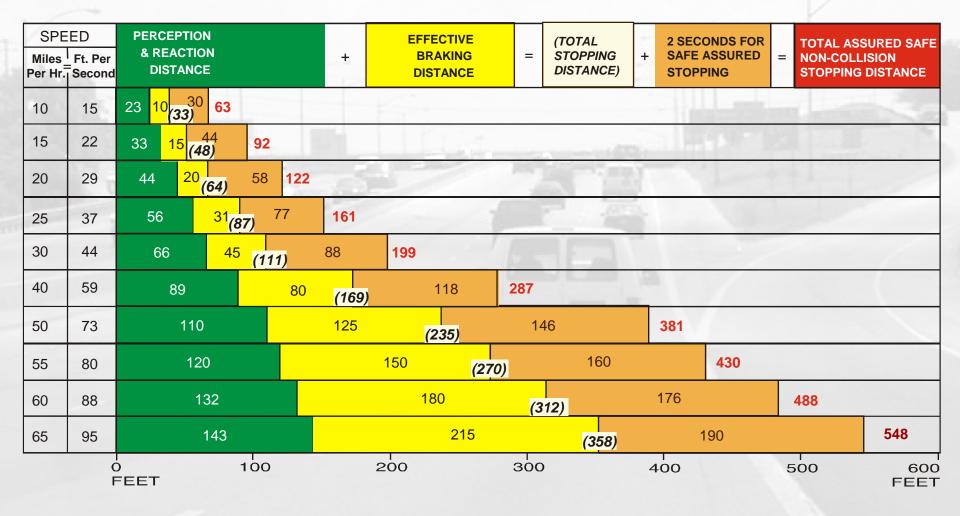
What affects stopping distance?

Stopping distance vs. following distance

How do you determine a safe following distance?



#### 15 PASSENGER VAN STOPPING DISTANCE TABLE



Perception & Reaction Distance = feet traveled in 1.5 seconds.

Effective Braking Distance = feet traveled after brake shoes contact the drums.

Total Stopping Distance = Perception + Effective Braking Distance.

Assured Stopping Distance = all three of the above + 2.0 seconds.

This chart shows only stopping distances for dry roads. For wet, snow covered, or icy roads, multiply Total Stopping Distance by 3 to 12 times.



#### Safe Backing Procedures

- Avoid if possible
- Back in Drive out
- **GOAL**
- Engage 4 ways
- Sound horn twice
- Look over shoulders
- Use all mirrors
- Utilize a spotter whenever available
- Avoid blindside backing
- Back slowly / cautiously / don't hurry

#### Safe Operation of Fifteen Passenger Vans

- 1. What We Know About Fifteen Passenger Van Safety
- 2. Characteristics of a Fifteen Passenger Van
- 3. Factors Contributing to Fifteen Passenger Van Incidents (Rollovers / Passenger Injuries)
- 4. Applying P.A.C.E. Behavioral Driving to Prevent Fifteen Passenger Van Operations

# What We Know About Fifteen Passenger Vans

"Fifteen passenger vans with ten or more occupants have a rollover rate that is nearly three times the rate of those that are lightly loaded"

"Considering single vehicle fifteen passenger van collisions, 90% of all rollovers are the end result of running off the roadway"

# What We Know About Fifteen Passenger Vans

"In 2000, 80% of the passengers that were fatally injured, were not wearing their seatbelts"

"Over the past decade, 92% of all belted passengers survived rollovers; whereas only 23% of unbelted passengers survived"

Characteristics of a Fifteen Passenger Van

- 1. High Rollover Potential Center of Gravity
- 2. Extensive Blind Spots
- 3. Large Bulky Vehicle
- 4. Height Restrictions
- 5. Vehicle Stability



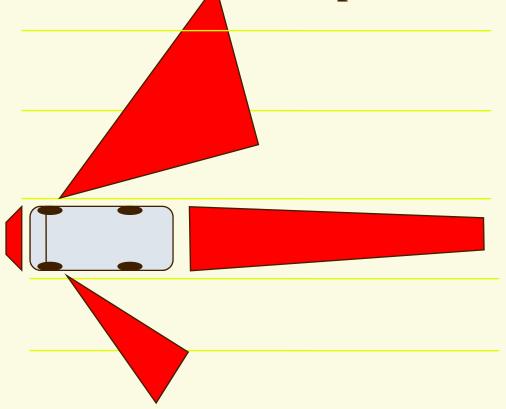
# Characteristics of a Fifteen Passenger Van High Rollover Potential





Characteristics of a Fifteen Passenger Van

**Extensive Blind Spots** 



Characteristics of a Fifteen Passenger Van

Large / Bulky Vehicle

- •Slow acceleration
- •Increased stopping distances
- •Wide turning radius
- •Requires additional room to park
- •Challenging to back into tight confines
- •Reacts differently to evasive maneuvers

# Characteristics of a Fifteen Passenger Van Height Restrictions

- Parking Structures
- •Drive-Thru
- Awnings
- Car Ports
- Hotel Reception Areas

Up to 7 feet

Characteristics of a Fifteen Passenger Van
Vehicle Stability

- •Handling depreciates with increased weight
- Prone to rear sway / fishtailing
- •Limited structural strength

Factors Contributing To Fifteen Passenger
Van Incidents / Injuries

VEHICLE
ENVIRONMENT
DRIVER

#### "Vehicle" Elements Contributing To Fifteen Passenger Van Incidents / Injuries

- Instability of vehicle
- Weight / number of passengers
- •Tires (type / condition / pressure / blow-outs)
- •Limited Structural Strength
- Heavy braking
- Overloaded vehicle (people / cargo)
- Hauling a trailer

"Environmental" Elements Contributing To Fifteen Passenger Van Incidents / Injuries

•Slippery surface (rain / ice / snow)

Limited visibility (fog / rain / smoke)

- •Traffic congestion
- Construction
- •Wildlife

#### "Driver" Elements Contributing To Fifteen Passenger Van Incidents / Injuries

- Quick evasive maneuvers
- Heavy braking
- •Following too closely
- High speed cornering / turns
- Driving off road / over-steering
- Not wearing seat belts
- Driving too fast for conditions
- •Driver fatigue / distractions

- 1. Plan Ahead
- 2. Analyze the surroundings
- 3. Communicate with others
- 4. Execute safe driving

YOURSELF

#### Plan Ahead (Prepare)

**Utilize qualified / experienced / trained operators** 

Be well rested

Conduct thorough vehicle inspections

Establish route / review directions

Plan trip / leave ahead of schedule / allow time for brakes

Limit passengers / cargo - distribute evenly

#### Plan Ahead (Prepare)

**Utilize Qualified / Experienced / Trained Operators** 

- "UTS157 (Formerly BPM 16)"
- •Review Motor Vehicle Record
- •Consider past experiences (prefer 15-pass. van)
- •Train
- •Driving skills / road evaluation

#### Plan Ahead (Prepare)

#### **Conduct Thorough Vehicle Inspections**

- •Before / during / after each trip
- •Document deficiencies complete "Fifteen Passenger Van Inspection Form"
- •Review previous "Fifteen Passenger Van Inspection Form"
- •Pay close attention to the tires

Maintain tire pressure (80-85psi)

Replace with high quality tires ("LT" - light duty truck tires)

Maintain good tire tread / condition



#### Plan Ahead (Prepare)

**Establish route / review directions** 

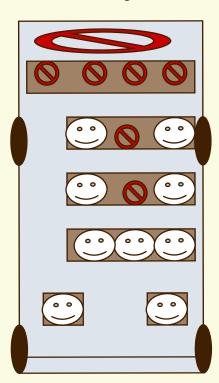
Plan trip / leave ahead of schedule / allow time for breaks



#### Plan Ahead (Prepare)

#### **Limit Passengers (distribute evenly)**

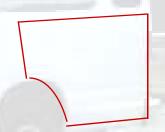
- •Only nine passengers including driver allowed on public highways in UT fifteen passenger vans
- •Position passengers as far forward to control center of gravity
- •Ensure all passengers are belted in prior to moving
- •Navigator should be positioned in the front passenger seat



#### Plan Ahead (Prepare)

#### **Limit Cargo (distribute evenly)**

- •Do not utilize the open space to overload with cargo
- •Limit one piece of luggage per passenger / plus a small carry-on
- •Restrain all cargo to prevent shift
- •Place cargo lower than seat back height
- •Do not place cargo on top of vehicle
- •UT System prohibits trailers with 15 passenger vans







#### **Analyze Surroundings**

Create a 360 degree picture around vehicle

**Examine mirrors every 5-8 seconds** 

Utilize central and peripheral vision

Clearing intersections (examine left-right-left) prior to entering

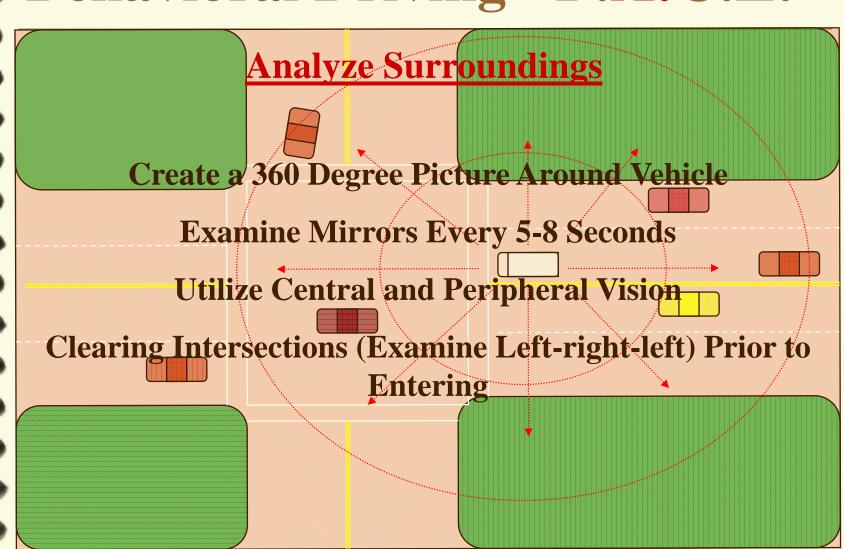
Leave yourself an escape path

Anticipate what those around you will do

Size up the scene while you are stopped at intersections / road access entrances

Examine parked vehicles for "open / covered wheels"







**Analyze Surroundings** 





#### **Analyze Surroundings**

Size up the Scene While You Are Stopped at Intersections / Road Access Entrances







#### **Analyze Surroundings**



#### **Communicate With Others**

**Drive With Headlights on at All Times** 

**Proper Use of Turn Signals / Brake Lights** 

**Avoid Others Blind Spots** 

**Use Horn to Alert Others of Potential Dangers** 

**Obtain Eye Contact When Attempting to Determine Others Actions** 

**Restricted Use of Cell Phones While Operating Vehicle** 

**Anticipate the Actions of Others** 



#### **Execute Safe Driving**

Wear safety belts

Maintain adequate following distances

**Operate at safe / legal speeds - consider conditions** 

Slow down while executing turns / curves

Practice proper off road maneuvering / shifting surfaces / slow prior to re-entering paved surface

**Avoid driving in clusters** 

**Stop at intersections** 

Park to avoid backing

Safe operation with trailers

Limit the number of hours driving a van to 10 per 24 hour period

Mandatory 30 minute break every 4 hours

Assign a navigator to assist the driver

Limit driving to normal hours - refrain from late nights / early morning trips

Keep fuel tank filled to avoid sloshing effect

#### **Execute Safe Driving**

Wear Safety Belts



#### **Execute Safe Driving**

**Maintain Safe Following Distances** 



**Execute Safe Driving** 

Operate at Safe / Legal Speeds - Consider Conditions

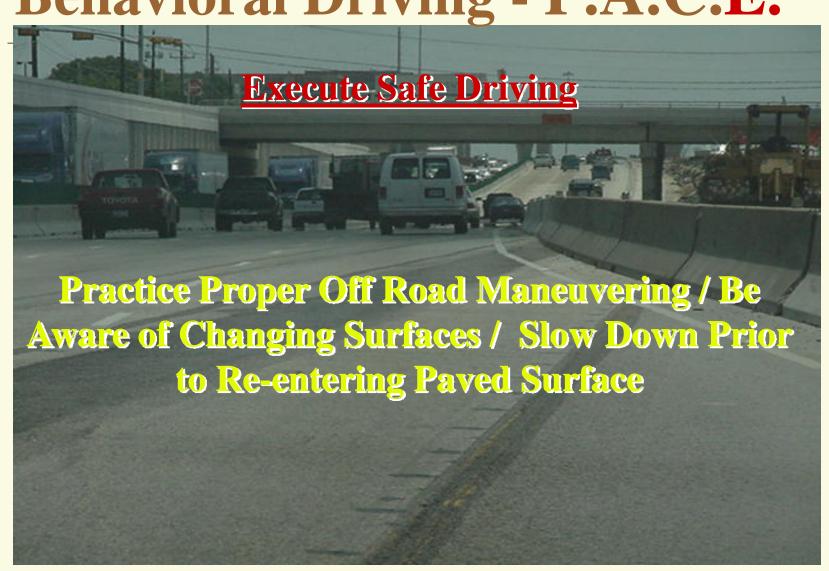
20 · km/h

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**Execute Safe Driving** 

**Slow Down While Executing Turns / Curves** 



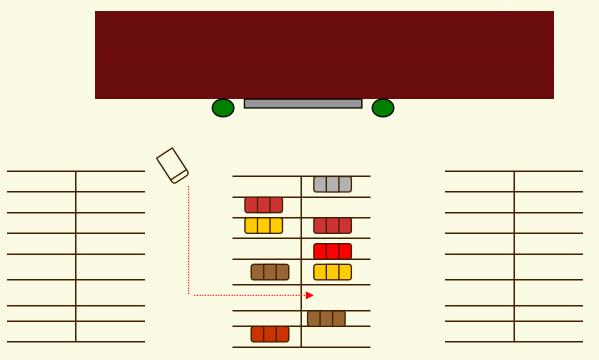






#### **Execute Safe Driving**

**Park To Avoid Backing** 



#### **Execute Safe Driving**

Limit the Number of Hours Driving a Van to 10 Per 24 Hour Period

**Mandatory 30 Minute Break Every 4 Hours** 

Assign a Navigator to Assist the Driver

Limit Driving to Normal Hours - Refrain From Late Nights / Early Morning Trips

**Keep Fuel Tank Filled to Avoid Sloshing Effect** 

Using the P.A.C.E. yourself method will provide you additional *space* and *visibility* which ultimately results in additional *time to react*.

#### **Commentary Drive:**

- Practice P.A.C.E. driving concepts
- Identify potential and immediate hazards
- Demonstrate a 12-15 second lead time view
- Scan intersections (L-R-L)
- Properly stop and proceed at intersections
- Time lights
- What to look for in parked cars
- Maintain adequate following distances
- Drive between clusters

#### **Commentary Drive:**

- Identify space around vehicle
- Define lane of least resistance
- Use brakes to communicate
- Obtain eye contact
- Cover horn and brake when potential hazards exist
- Check mirrors every 5-8 seconds
- Exercise most desirable backing options
- Accelerate and stop smoothly

FIFTEEN PASSENGER VAN DRIVER EVALU	AIIC	JIN F	UKI	VI			
Driver	1 -	- Not	Practi	ced			
Evaluator	2 -	2 - Rarely Practiced					
Date	3 - Occasionally Practiced						
	4 – Most often Practiced						
DARWING LOT COURSE	5 –	5 – Always Practiced					
PARKING LOT COURSE					_		
Lane Changes	1	2	3	4	5		
Low Speed							
Higher Speed							
Turning	1	2	3	4	5		
Left							
Right							
3 Point Turn Around							
Weaving Between Cones	1	2	3	4	5		
Braking	1	2	3	4	5		
Rapid Braking While Going Straight							
Braking During a Curve							
Parking	1	2	3	4	5		
Forward							
Backing							
Parallel Parking							
ON THE ROAD							
Plan Ahead							
Prior to Departure Examines Vehicle:	1	2	3	4	5		
Check Tire Pressure (posted on tire)	1	2	3	4	5		
Review Loading (passengers and cargo)	1	2	3	4	5		

Align Mirrors/Check Visibility/Blind Spots	1	2	3	4	5			
Familiarize Yourself with the Vehicle Controls	1	2	3	4	5			
Enforce Seatbelt Policy	1	2	3	4	5			
Plans Trip								
Identifies Distant Relevant Objects	1	2	3	4	5			
Drives within visibility limitations	1	2	3	4	5			
Analyze Surroundings								
Clears intersection (L – R – L)	1	2	3	4	5			
Compensates for potential hazards	1	2	3	4	5			
Adjusts speed to meet environment	1	2	3	4	5			
Mirror check intervals	1	2	3	4	5			
Communicates								
Proper use of lights	1	2	3	4	5			
Properly uses turn signals, flashers, brake lights	1	2	3	4	5			
Covers horn / sounds when needed	1	2	3					
Stays out of others blind spots	1	2	3	4				
Seeks eye contact with other drivers	1	2	3	4	5			
Execute								
Maintains proper space around vehicle (no tail-gating)	1	2	3	4	5			
Choose lane of least resistance	1	2		4				
Stopping and proceeding at intersections	1	2	3					
Positions vehicle to eliminate risk (turning/backing)	1	2	3	4	5			
Training Successfully Completed Training	Incomplete							
Comments:								

#### **Driving Skills Course**

