

# Speaker Bios

## **CHARLES A. HURLEY**

Chief Executive Officer, MADD

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Bringing more than 30 years of experience in highway safety and the war on drunk driving, Chuck Hurley will continue his quest to protect the roadways and families nationwide as the Chief Executive Officer of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD).

Prior to joining MADD in March 2005, Chuck served as the vice president of the Transportation Safety Group for the National Safety Council and as the executive director of the Council's Air Bag and Seat Belt Safety Campaign.

In 2004, Chuck received the prestigious J. Stannard Baker Award for Highway Safety from the International Association of Chiefs of Police for his lifetime commitment and outstanding contribution to highway safety.

A longtime supporter of MADD, Chuck has been involved in the grassroots organization since the very beginning. He attended MADD's first national press conference in Washington, D.C. in 1980, and strongly supported and assisted in MADD's efforts to pass the National 21 Minimum Drinking Age Act in 1984. From 1993 to 1998, Chuck served on the MADD National Board of Directors and was later named to the MADD National Board of Advisors.

Chuck has testified before Congress eleven times on occupational, highway and community safety issues. Additionally, he has appeared over 200 times on major media networks such as ABC, CNN and NBC as a spokesperson for the National Safety Council.

Chuck graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Dickinson College in Pennsylvania. From 1968 to 1970, he served in the United States Navy as an intelligence officer in Taipei, Taiwan.

Chuck and his wife Ginnie have three children, Chuck Jr., Kris and Patrick, and three grandchildren, Finn, Maddy and Timothy.

## **GLYNN R. BIRCH**

### **National President, MADD**

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Following the tragic death of his 21-month-old son to drunk driving, Glynn Birch joined MADD and was asked to share his story. He has been sharing it ever since to help protect other families from this violent crime. Glynn's election as the National President of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) makes him the first male and minority president in the organization's 25-year history. He's been volunteering his time and talents for more than 15 years advancing MADD's mission at the local, state and national levels.

On May 3, 1988, Glynn's son, Courtney, was playing with his two older cousins at his Grandmother's house. Hearing the luring music of an ice cream truck, Courtney followed his cousins outside. That's when the offender's car came barreling down the street and hit Courtney at 70-miles per hour, dragging his small body over 150 feet before the car stopped. Courtney was killed instantly.

The drunk driver had a blood alcohol level of .26 at the time of the crash and was driving with a revoked license and three prior DUI convictions. Glynn's attorney suggested he contact MADD and with MADD's help, Glynn wrote a victim impact statement helping send the offender to 15 years in prison—the maximum penalty at the time.

Following the trial, Glynn began serving as a volunteer speaker for the MADD Central Florida Chapter in Orlando. He was elected to the chapter's Board of Directors in 1998, and in 1999, was voted chapter president. Glynn was a featured speaker at the MADD National Diversity Forum in 1999 and at several MADD national conferences, served as a trainer for new victim advocates and represented MADD to numerous groups during his tenure. In 2000, Glynn was elected to the MADD National Board of Directors and has served on various committees. Elected to a second Board term in 2003, Glynn was named the National Vice President of Victim Issues, where his contribution and leadership helped MADD serve more victims/survivors as well as recruit and train more victim advocates.

Glynn lives in Orlando, Florida and has two grown sons, Adrian and Rahmlee, and four grandchildren.

## **NICOLE NASON**

**Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

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Nicole began her duties as Administrator to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) on May 31, 2006. She joins NHTSA from the Department of Transportation, where she was the Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs since July 2003.

As the assistant secretary, she was responsible for oversight of congressional affairs, coordinating all legislative and non-legislative relationships between the Department and Congress, and directing the presentation of the Department's legislative program. She also worked closely with state and local governments, other federal agencies, public and special interest groups, transportation associations and non-profit organizations.

Prior to the DOT, Nicole was with the U.S. Customs Service as Assistant Commissioner of the Office of Congressional Affairs. She also served as counsel for the House Judiciary Committee under Chairman Henry Hyde of Illinois and as counsel and communications director for Intelligence Committee Chairman Porter Goss of Florida.

Nicole earned her bachelor's degree at American University and her law degree at Case Western University Law School.

## **MARY E. PETERS**

### Secretary of Transportation

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Mary E. Peters was nominated by President George W. Bush on September 5, 2006, and confirmed by the U.S. Senate as the 15th Secretary of Transportation on September 30, 2006, after spending more than two decades crafting solutions to our nation's toughest transportation challenges.

She is responsible for maintaining a safe, reliable and efficient transportation system, while leading an agency with almost 60,000 employees and a \$61.6 billion budget that oversees air, maritime and surface transportation missions.

In 2001, the President asked Peters to lead the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). As FHWA Administrator from 2001 to 2005, she placed special emphasis on finding new ways to invest in road and bridge construction, including innovative public-private partnerships that help build roads faster and at less expense. She also was a strong advocate for using new technology to reduce construction time, saving taxpayer money and resulting in safer, longer-lasting roads and highways.

From 1985 to 2001, she served in the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT). During her tenure, Peters worked her way up through the ranks as a contract administrator, deputy director for administration, and deputy director. In 1998, then-Governor Jane Hull appointed her director of the agency. While in office, she was recognized as the *Most Influential Person in Arizona Transportation* by the *Arizona Business Journal*.

Secretary Peters received the *2004 National Woman of the Year Award* from the Women's Transportation Seminar, a national organization of transportation professionals. She chaired the Standing Committee on Planning and the Asset Management Task Force for the American Association of State Highway Officials (AASHTO), and was a member of the AASHTO 2001 Reauthorization Steering Committee.

Secretary Peters holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Phoenix and attended Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government Program for State and Local Government Executives.

## **SUSAN FERGUSON, Ph.D.**

Senior Vice President of Research, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety

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Susan Ferguson, Ph.D. is Senior Vice President, Research, at the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety and has been with the Institute since 1991. The Institute is an independent, nonprofit, scientific and educational organization dedicated to reducing the losses - deaths, injuries, and property damage - from crashes on the nation's highways.

Dr. Ferguson's past research on older drivers includes analyses of older driver crash rates and trends, using a variety of databases, as well as analyses of intersection safety. Additionally, research on airbag effectiveness has included breakdowns by driver age. Research underway includes an analysis of the effect, both on licensure rates and ultimately crash rates, of the recent change to the licensing law in Florida requiring vision tests for drivers 80 and older. Other studies include an in-depth examination of intersection safety as well as an exploratory study of Iowa's approach to issuing restricted licenses to seniors.

Dr. Ferguson serves on numerous committees and advisory boards. She serves as the chair of the Blue Ribbon Panel for Evaluation of Advanced Airbags, and on the Transportation Research Board Committees on Occupant Restraints, Women's Issues in Transportation, and Alcohol, Drugs, and Transportation.

Dr. Ferguson received a B.A. in psychology in 1980 and a Ph.D. in experimental psychology from the George Washington University in 1991. She has conducted research in many different highway safety areas with an emphasis on older drivers, young drivers, vehicle safety issues, especially airbag performance, and child occupant protection. She has published more than 90 scientific papers.

## **JIM CHAMPAGNE**

Immediate Past Chairman, Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA)

Executive Director/Governor's Highway Safety Representative  
Louisiana Highway Safety Commission

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Lieutenant Colonel Champagne is the Immediate Past Chairman of the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA).

Jim's commitment to highway safety resulted in his selection to the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) in September, 2004. He previously served as Vice Chair of the organization from 2002-2004. GHSA is the nonprofit association representing the highway safety program managers of the states and the territories. The Association plays a key role in the development of national highway safety policy. Congress, the federal agencies, and the national media frequently call upon its opinions and expertise.

Jim's state agency, the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission, serves as the coordinating agency between the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and state and local government. The primary objective of the Highway Safety Commission is to reduce the severity and number of traffic crashes, deaths and injuries on our highways through proper problem identification.

He was also appointed Executive Director and Governor's Highway Safety Representative by Governor Foster in 1996 and continues to serve under newly elected Governor Blanco. He implemented a wide range of highway safety programs including: Safe and Sober, Louisiana Safe Kids, Buckle Up Louisiana, Project Graduation and Cops in Shops.

Colonel Champagne has a degree in Criminal Justice from Southeastern University in Hammond, Louisiana and a diploma in police administration and traffic management from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. He is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP); Louisiana State Troopers Association; Southeastern and Northwestern Alumni Associations.

## **FRED L. WEBBER**

**President & CEO, Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers**

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Fred Webber joined the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers as President and CEO in January 2004. The Alliance is a trade association of nine car and light truck manufacturers including BMW Group, DaimlerChrysler, Ford Motor Company, General Motors, Mazda, Mitsubishi Motors, Porsche, Toyota and Volkswagen.

In late 2002, Fred retired as President and CEO of the American Chemistry Council. His nearly ten years at the Council as CEO followed many executive positions in the public and private sectors. He was also President and CEO of the U. S. League of Savings Institutions from November 1988 to September 1992.

Previously, Fred served for five years in the Nixon and Ford Administrations as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Legislative Affairs, Special Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs, and Special Assistant for Legislative Affairs to the Secretary of Labor. He also served for three years as Chief Staff Assistant to the late John Dellenback, Congressman from Oregon.

He is a member of the board of trustees of the Marine Corps University Foundation, the Chemical Heritage Foundation and the Chemical and Biological Arms Control Institute. He is also a member of the Corporate Advisory Board of S. O. M. E. (So Others Might Eat), and the Distinguished Advisory Board of the National Kidney Foundation/National Capital Area. His other board assignments include CerOx Corporation of Santa Maria, California, which has developed patented technology to treat hazardous waste streams, Continental Chemical Corporation, Ltd., a petrochemical and specialty chemical manufacturer in the Asia Pacific Region, and Proudfoot Consulting Company.

In April 2003, Webber served on the Presidential Rank Awards Program's Distinguished Review Board.

Webber is a native of Portland, Maine. He is a former Marine Corps officer who served on active duty for five years and is a graduate from Deerfield Academy (MA) in 1957 and from Yale University in 1961 (BA in History and Political Science). He has also done graduate work at American University (DC).

## **SUSAN MOLINARI**

### **Chairman, The Century Council**

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Susan is the Chairman of The Century Council, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to fighting drunk driving and underage drinking, and funded by America's leading distillers. She also heads up Susan Molinari, L.L.C., a government affairs and strategic communication firm with current and past clients in the areas of energy, telecommunications, transportation and finance.

A member of Congress from 1990 to 1997, Susan was elected by her colleagues to the eight person Republican Majority Leadership in 1994, making her the highest ranking woman in the Congress. Throughout her Congressional tenure, Susan was an effective leader in the fight for crime victims, passing sweeping judicial reforms to toughen law on repeat rapists and child molesters and to increase funding for the Violence Against Women Act. She also won passage of measures to enhance adoption, and promote breast cancer awareness and research funding.

Prior to Congress, she was twice elected to the New York City Council, where she was Minority Leader. In 1997 she left Congress to co-anchor the team inaugurating CBS News Saturday Morning, where she conducted on-air interviews of national and international newsmakers. Susan chairs the Ripon Educational Fund, and is the national spokesperson for American for Consumer Education and Competition, a financial literacy organization.

Susan is also the Co-Chair of the Millennial Housing Commission, a 22-member, blue ribbon panel, established by Congress to address America's growing housing concerns. In addition, she was a member of the Bush-Cheney Transition Advisory Committee.

## **PETER H. CRESSY**

President/CEO, Distilled Spirits Council of the United States  
(DISCUS)

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Dr. Peter H. Cressy joined the Distilled Spirits Council as President and Chief Executive Officer in September 1999. A distinguished educator and retired U.S. Navy Rear Admiral, Dr. Cressy has an impressive history of leadership positions.

He came to the Distilled Spirits Council following six years as Chancellor of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. Under his tenure, the University had a significant impact on the economic, educational and cultural resurgence of Southeastern Massachusetts. U.S. News & World Report honored the University by recognizing it as a Top Ten Northern Regional University. Dr. Cressy's academic career also included two years as President of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy as well as numerous teaching assignments.

His 28 year naval career included key appointments at the State Department, House of Representatives, the Pentagon and several commanding officer positions. His operational assignments included duties in Alaska, Japan, Iceland, Italy, the Mediterranean and shipboard duty off the coast of Vietnam during the evacuation of Saigon and the Mayaguez Rescue. He concluded his career as Commander, Fleet Air Mediterranean and Commander, NATO Air Mediterranean during Desert Storm.

A 1963 graduate of Yale University, he has a Master's Degree in International Affairs from George Washington University, an MBA from the University of Rhode Island, and a Doctorate in Education from the University of San Francisco. He also graduated with distinction from the Naval War College.

In addition to serving as President and CEO for the Distilled Spirits Council, Dr. Cressy serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the distilled spirits industry's educational foundation, The Century Council.

## **JAMES W. MCMAHON**

Chief of Staff, International Association of Chiefs of Police

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Jim McMahon currently serves at the Chief of Staff for the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP).

Jim McMahon's career as a New York State Trooper spanned a total of 37 years, the last nine as the eleventh Superintendent of State Police. Never forgetting his experiences as a Trooper, Superintendent McMahon brought into play during his appointment better means to decrease highway crashes, to save lives, and to diminish injuries. Under his tutelage, the New York State Police reduced between April 1994, and July 2003, the rate of highway fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled from 1.58 to 1.09, translating into 1,784 lives saved.

Superintendent McMahon's commitment to traffic safety issues extended well beyond New York's borders. He served on a multitude of committees, notably the IACP's Highway Safety Committee, and was the General Chair of its State and Provincial Police Directorate between 1999 and 2002.

Superintendent McMahon currently is also serving as Director of New York State's Office of Public Security.