



DEC 26 2013

DEPARTMENT ORDER )

No. 114 )

Series of 2013 )

*(Signature)*

SUBJECT: TERMINATION OF THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
TRAFFIC ACCIDENT  
RECORDING AND ANALYSIS  
SYSTEM (TARAS)

In 2004, DPWH established a computerized Traffic Accident Recording and Analysis System (TARAS), using data collected by the Philippine National Police (PNP). These data are intended to be used by DPWH to identify potential accident black spots and to program road safety improvement projects.

However, after leading the process since 2004, the implementation of TARAS is no longer sustainable given the logistical challenge of training and re-training the PNP (*PNP staff change posts every 2 years*) including providing the approximately 1,500 police stations nationwide with blank Traffic Accident Record forms to support the system. Further, after several meetings with stakeholders, it was recognized that confidence levels in the quality of data from TARAS are very low. Further the program only covers national roads (*local roads are not included in TARAS*) and therefore does not provide a complete set of data for all roads. Agencies like Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) also uses different Traffic Accident forms and their data is therefore not captured in TARAS.

Other issues impacting data quality include the long and complex process of getting data from crash sites into TARAS and the significant under-reporting of road traffic accidents in Philippines, based on review of hospital records. Since being introduced in 2004, there have been no improvement in data quality of TARAS nor the primary issue of limited coverage on national roads has been addressed and it is unlikely under the current process that the data will be of sufficient coverage or quality to generate reliable statistics at the national level as required in the Philippine Road Safety Action Plan (PRSAP) 2011-2020 in which DOTC is the lead agency with DPWH, DILG, DOH, DEPED etc. as supporting agencies.

Therefore, starting January 2014, **DPWH will cease to collect and record traffic accident data in the TARAS database so that government funds are no longer used on activities that add negligible value to improving road safety.**

To address the engineering dimension of road safety, DPWH will continue to implement the International Road Assessment Program (iRAP) to collect data to develop road safety programs and undertake road safety audits.

This Order shall take effect immediately and supersedes Department Order No. 40, series of 2004 and other issuances or any provision that are inconsistent herewith.

*(Signature)*  
**ROGELIO L. SINGSON**  
Secretary

Department of Public Works and Highways  
Office of the Secretary



WIN3Q24489

Attachment: D.O. 40, series of 2004

897.13 DPWH  
01-03-2014



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
MANILA

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647-13 DPWH  
3-19-04

MAR 19 2004

DEPARTMENT ORDER )  
NO 40 )  
Series of 2004 (Aug 3-19-04)

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION  
OF THE DPWH  
TRAFFIC ACCIDENT  
RECORDING AND  
ANALYSIS SYSTEM  
(TARAS)

In line with the Department's objective to reduce the number of traffic accidents in the country and to improve the traffic accident prevention program for National Highways in the Philippines, a Traffic Accident Recording Analysis System (TARAS) has been developed and is to be adopted as the official source of Traffic Accident Information. TARAS shall replace other systems that are currently being used to report on Traffic Accident Information.

The policies to be adopted in relation to the implementation of the TARAS include, but are not limited to:

1. The TARAS is to be the official source of Traffic Accident Information.
2. It will continue to be the responsibility of the Philippine National Police (PNP) to collect Traffic Accident Data and record this information using a Traffic Accident Report (TAR) Form.
3. Traffic Accident Information derived from TARAS will be made freely available to the PNP.

Responsibility for the maintenance of the data in the TARAS shall be delegated to the Road Safety Section (RSS), Project Evaluation Division, Planning Service, Planning and Design Division staff from the Regional Offices and District Engineering Offices. The roles and responsibilities of these offices shall include but not limited to:

**Road Safety Section, Project Evaluation Division, Planning Service**

The Road Safety Section, Project Evaluation Division, Planning Service is the internal user group that will manage the TARAS and will be responsible:

1. To coordinate traffic accident recording and analysis business process and operational related issues.
2. To enter Traffic Accident Data that is sent to the Road Safety Section from Regional Offices not connected to the DPWH Wide Area Network (WAN).

3. To manage the production of the carbonized Traffic Accident Report (TAR) Forms and to provide these Forms directly to different Municipal Police Offices (MPOs) and Traffic Management Offices (TMOs) nationwide through the concerned DPWH District Engineering Offices (DEOs).
4. To ensure the adequate supply of the carbonized TAR Forms for the PNP during the first 3 years of implementation of TARAS.
5. To establish a continuing liaison with PNP Directorate for Operations for the efficient and timely collection of traffic accident data.
6. To provide the DILG – PNP regularly (monthly/quarterly) the Traffic Accident Data derived from TARAS.
7. To assist DILG – PNP to conduct continuous training for PNP officers on Accident Data Collection and Recording inclusive of how to complete the TAR Form.

#### **Planning and Design Division Staff from Regional Offices**

Staff from Regional Office Planning and Design Division will be responsible:

1. To receive the TAR Forms from District Engineering Offices.
2. To check and verify the accident data contained in the Traffic Accident Report (TAR) Form for completeness and accuracy before entering them into TARAS.
3. To enter the traffic accident data into the TARAS system regularly and on time.
4. To check and ensure that all TARs collected from the MPOs/TMOs have the corresponding Report Number in both pages of the TAR form.
5. To ensure that all submitted TAR Forms are properly stored after data entry to enable efficient retrieval in the future.

#### **District Engineering Offices**

Staff from Planning and Design Section within DPWH District Engineering Offices will be responsible:

1. To regularly collect the second copy of the filled-up TAR Forms from the Municipal Police Offices/Traffic Management Offices on a monthly basis and to submit the same in batches to the Regional Offices concerned for data entry into TARAS within two (2) weeks after the end of every month.
2. To check that the data on the TAR form is complete before sending the form to the Regional Office.

3. To ensure that adequate supplies of TAR forms are available at the designated police stations every month.

**Monitoring and Information Service (MIS)**

Staff from MIS will be responsible in providing technical support through MIS Help Desk.

The procedures described in the 'Traffic Accident Reporting Manual shall be strictly followed for the collection of Traffic Accident Data.

The Traffic Accident Report Form is the official Form for the recording of Traffic Accidents by the PNP and is to be used as the source of entering Traffic Accident Data into TARAS.

The instruction on how to use the TARAS are detailed in the TARAS Users Manual and this shall be the official manual on how to use the System.

Copies of these Manuals may be obtained from the Chief, Project Evaluation Division, Planning Service.

This Order shall take effect immediately and supersede all previous Department Orders and other issuances or any provision thereof that are inconsistent herewith.

  
**FLORANTE SORIOQUEZ**  
Acting Secretary