

# ROADWAY SAFETY INSTITUTE

Advancing roadway safety with user-centered solutions

UTC Project Information	
Project Title	Impact of Exempting Low-Level Speed Violations
University	University of Minnesota
Principal Investigator	Frank Douma
PI Contact Information	<a href="mailto:douma002@umn.edu">douma002@umn.edu</a> 612-626-9946
Funding Source(s) and Amounts Provided (by each agency or organization)	Minnesota Department of Transportation: \$86,379
Total Project Cost	\$86,379
Agency ID or Contract Number	UTC Grant Number: DTRT13-G-UTC35 MnDOT contract 99008 work order 138 CTS# 2014044
Start and End Dates	11/22/2013 – 07/31/2015
Brief Description of Research Project	<p><i>Final report abstract:</i></p> <p>This report covers work done to respond to a request from the Minnesota State Legislature that was included in amendments to Minn. Stat. § 171.12, passed in the 2012 Legislative session. Specifically, the report examines the impacts of Minnesota Statute § 171.12, Subd. 6, better known as the “Dimler Amendment,” which calls for certain low-level violations of certain speed limits to not be entered on the violator’s driving record. The statute called for a report from the Commissioners of Transportation, Public Safety and Health on the impacts of increasing the Dimler qualifying range from 5 mph to 10 mph in 60 mph speed zones on travel reliability, travel efficiency, safety, and privacy. Based on the findings of these analyses, the impacts of the 2012 changes were negligible.</p> <p>More significantly, however, in the course of this project, the researchers came upon findings that led them to question the efficacy of the law itself. The public appears to not be aware of the law’s existence, which may be compounded by the fact that the law lays on top of Minnesota’s already complex speed laws and regulations. Further, the exemptions may be benefiting a small, but significant number of repeat offenders, and complicating regulation of commercial vehicle drivers.</p>
Describe Implementation of Research Outcomes (or why not implemented)	Based on Douma’s findings, MnDOT recommended elimination of the "Dimler Amendment" exempting the reporting of speed citations up to 10 mph over 55 and 60 mph posted speed limits from the violator's driving record. Short of this, MnDOT also made recommendations to bring the amendment into conformity with Federal Motor Carrier regulations.
Place Any Photos Here	

Last updated (9/30/2019)



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Impacts/Benefits of Implementation (actual, not anticipated)	Nothing to report.
Web Links <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reports</li><li>• Project website</li></ul>	<a href="http://www.cts.umn.edu/Research/ProjectDetail.html?id=2014044">http://www.cts.umn.edu/Research/ProjectDetail.html?id=2014044</a> <a href="http://www.cts.umn.edu/Publications/ResearchReports/reportdetail.html?id=2406">http://www.cts.umn.edu/Publications/ResearchReports/reportdetail.html?id=2406</a>

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