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Curriculum Vitae

Ronald “Buck” Warfield

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Buck Warfield initiated All-Terrain Vehicle Safety Consulting (ATVSC) in 2002 to serve as a quality resource for ATV operator training, safety, and expert analysis of ATV related accidents. Since 2002 ATVSC has partnered with two more exceptionable off-highway vehicle (OHV) experts, Tom Yager (<http://atvexpert.com/yager.html>) and Marshall Grant (<http://atvexpert.com/grant.html>). This has allowed ATVSC to broaden expertise to now address all OHV types; ATVs, Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles (ROVs), Utility Off-Highway Vehicles (UTVs), off-highway motorcycles (OHMs or dirt bikes), snowmobiles and full-size 4X4s. ATVSC uniquely provides experts specifically qualified for each of these individual vehicle types.

Buck has thirty-five years of in-depth experience, knowledge and expertise in the fields of All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Safety, Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle (ROV) Safety, ATV Operations and ROV Operations. He was nationally recognized for his pioneering work in training and monitoring Licensed ATV Safety Instructors for major ATV manufacturers including; Arctic Cat, BRP (Bombardier), Crossrunner, Honda, John Deere, KTM, Kawasaki, KYMCO USA, Polaris, Suzuki, Tomberlin and Yamaha. Under guidelines established by the ATV Safety Institute (ASI) and the Specialty Vehicle Institute of America (SVIA), Mr. Warfield has trained and licensed Instructors for agencies including the Air Force, Border Patrol, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Park Service, State Parks, State and local Police Departments and private commercial businesses. He was one of the primary training Chief Instructors for ASI, training and supervising their employed Instructor body for over thirty-one years. Buck was certified by the Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association (ROHVA) as a ROV DriverCoach Trainer. ROVs are also commonly referred to as “side-by-sides” or “UTVs”. ROHVA member manufacturers include; Honda, Mahindra, BRP, Kawasaki, Polaris, Yamaha and Trextron.

His training, experience and investigative skills began in 1970 when he entered the Maryland State Police Training Academy. He successfully completed the six-month MSP Academy course in highway traffic investigation, criminal investigation and general police studies. Mr. Warfield was employed by the Maryland State Police as a State Trooper for twenty-three years. For the first sixteen years Trooper Warfield served as a routine patrol officer in an area of the State where the State Police functioned as the primary investigating agency for all incidents, traffic and criminal. He investigated hundreds of highway accidents, including many in-depth fatal investigations. During that period, he conducted numerous criminal investigations with apprehensions ranging from simple thefts to criminal homicide, rape, aggravated assault, drug trafficking and other extremely serious offenses. As a result, Trooper Warfield was frequently deposed and routinely testified at trial. In 1987 he was elevated to the position of Crime Prevention Unit Supervisor and retained that office until retiring in 1993.

In 1985 Mr. Warfield was trained and certified by the Specialty Vehicle Institute of America (SVIA) as an ATV Instructor. In 1989, he furthered that training and expertise by becoming an ATV Safety Institute (ASI) Licensed Chief Instructor. From 1989 to 2020, he was continually under contract by ASI to train, license and monitor that Agency's employed ATV Instructor staff. Since 1988 ASI has maintained over one thousand Licensed Instructors throughout the United States.

Buck was one of the senior Chief Instructors under contract to ASI. He established an Instructor Training Facility at Rocky Meadows Farm in central Maryland. This is a one hundred fifty-acre farm owned and operated by the Warfield family. The training facility included a classroom building, a marked flat track and wooded trails. ASI utilized it for over thirty years for Instructor Training on the east coast. Additionally, hundreds of novice ATV riders have completed the ASI RiderCourse program conducted at this facility.

In 2010 Buck Warfield completed the Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association (ROHVA) approved training for side-by-side utility and recreational vehicles. He was certified by ROHVA as a ROV DriverCoach Trainer, qualifying him to actually train and license Coaches to teach ROV drivers the ROHVA "Closed Range Exercises" as well as the ROHVA "Open Trail Experience Suite".

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) requested Mr. Warfield's testimony in several hearings relating to ATV safety. These hearings discussed the operation of ATVs by both adults and children. CPSC Compliance Investigators were trained by Mr. Warfield at his training facility on almost a yearly basis from 1988-2020. From 1988 through 1998 Mr. Warfield routinely visited ATV dealerships nationwide and verified that CPSC guidelines were being followed. Recent CPSC activity has addressed the use of ATVs by children under the age of sixteen years. Participating in hearings and discussions of this issue, Mr. Warfield maintains extensive knowledge of CPSC ATV Safety guidelines and investigative support for CPSC rulings.

Buck Warfield has testified in Court and has been deposed in numerous ATV, ROV & UTV related cases. He has been contracted to investigate more than two hundred ATV and ROV accidents in recent years.

Major Projects/Achievements

In 1984, then Trooper Warfield initiated one of the first organized ATV Rider Training Programs in the country. Acting as both a Maryland State Trooper and volunteer 4H Leader, he sought the guidance of the newly formed Specialty Vehicle Institute of America in establishing this State Police/4H safety program.

Directed primarily at younger riders, the training was conducted by then Trooper Warfield while on duty and in uniform. In 1985 he attended and completed the SVIA program to obtain an Instructor Certification. This local training received national recognition in 1987. Trooper Warfield was awarded the National Safety Council's Merit Award for innovative safety programs. In addition, he received the "Police Officer of the Year" commendation awarded by the State of Maryland Law Enforcement Association that same year.

As a result of this success, along with other community-based policing initiatives enacted by Trooper Warfield, the Maryland State Police elevated his position from routine patrol duties to Coordinator of MSP Crime Prevention Programs. He was placed in charge of the D.A.R.E. Program, Neighborhood Watch, Crime Solvers and other community initiatives. In 1987 Trooper Warfield established the Maryland State Police ATV Patrol Unit. This unit consisted of four uniformed Troopers certified by SVIA and qualified to operate two MSP ATVs. The unit, one of the first of its kind in the Nation, was utilized extensively for search and rescue, crowd control and other related police assignments. Trooper Warfield was issued a new marked Ford Bronco and a two ATV Unit trailer that became his assigned transportation. During this period, the Maryland State Police also relied upon Trooper Warfield's expertise to review and evaluate all ATV accidents that occurred within their jurisdiction. These included both off-highway and highway collisions. Trooper Warfield was an invited guest speaker on ATV Safety for community groups and organizations throughout Maryland and the Mid-Atlantic States. He maintained his position in charge of this operation and the entire Crime Prevention Unit through 1993 when he retired.

With this background in both police duties and ATV Safety, he frequently assisted police and public organization in establishing written operational orders for Departmental ATV use. His expertise has been utilized by the Air Force, Border Patrol, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Park Service and local police in not only training their personnel as Instructors, but also in establishing those Agencies' Operational Orders.

Upon retiring from the police force in 1993, Mr. Warfield's availability to ASI was significantly increased. On multiple occasions his peers at the ATV Safety Institute recognized him for his outstanding work ethic and assignment volume.

On July 01, 2000, Mr. Warfield was selected by ASI to conduct an ATV RiderCourse Seminar for the compliance officers of the Consumer Product Safety Commission. These participants were responsible for monitoring the CPSC ATV Consent Decree enacted in 1988.

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On August 20, 2001, Mr. Warfield was contracted by ASI to facilitate an informational ATV Safety Seminar for the entire West Virginia Legislative body.

Another major undertaking began in June of 2001. Mr. Warfield was selected by ASI to participate as a member of their Curriculum Revision Board. For approximately six months, the Board reviewed, evaluated and redesigned the training manuals utilized by ASI for both Instructor Training and Chief Instructor Training.

On March 26, 2003, Tread Lightly!, Inc. requested the services of Mr. Warfield in developing and implementing their Master Instructor and Instructor curriculum. Tread Lightly! is a non-profit funded by numerous major contributors including; Ford Motor Company, DaimlerChrysler, Mitsubishi, Toyota and others. They have established a national staff of Licensed Instructors that promote the ethical use of public lands. Mr. Warfield became one of their founding Master Instructors and has been contracted by Tread Lightly! to assist in the continued training of both Master and Licensed Instructors at a Staff level.

On June 05, 2003, the Consumer Product Safety Commission selected Mr. Warfield to testify at their Product Review Hearing conducted in Morgantown, WV. He related his expertise and conclusions concerning an increasing number of serious and fatal ATV accidents occurring both in the State Of West Virginia and throughout the Country. This event was televised nationally and was attended by several thousand.

On August 15, 2005 the 4H conducted a two-day seminar to launch a new National 4H initiative to train youngsters in the proper use of ATVs. The seminar was located at the 4H National Training Center in Bethesda, Maryland and was attended by approximately forty representatives from States throughout the country. Mr. Warfield was selected by the organizers as a presenter for the workshop.

On September 25, 2005, the Consumer Product Safety Commission featured Mr. Warfield in a nationally released Public Service Announcement (PSA) to promote the safe and responsible use of ATVs. This video was filmed at Mr. Warfield's ATV training site in Sykesville. The PSA was made available to all major media outlets including network television, cable TV suppliers and the print media.

From October 6-9, 2005, the nationally syndicated television show titled "Brian Fisher's ATV World", filmed an ATV Instructor Preparation Seminar conducted by Mr. Warfield at his Maryland Training site. The four-day seminar was edited to a thirty-minute production and was televised nationally on cable TV.

Mr. Warfield also hosted and facilitated a three-day seminar from November 16-18, 2005. This workshop was conducted at his Sykesville facility to train and inform the current compliance personnel employed by CPSC. Nineteen employees and supervisors attended the session that included hands-on ATV operation and classroom instruction.

On June 06, 2006, Mr. Warfield participated in a U. S. Senate hearing conducted by Virginia Senator George Allen. Conducted in the Dirksen Senate Building, the hearing discussed compliance with All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Standards.

The Georgia Sheriff's Association contracted the ATV Safety Institute and requested a speaker for their June, 2007 annual seminar. They intended to expand their "CHAMPS" Program to incorporate ATV Safety Training for fifth grade children in the Georgia Public School System. On June 11, 2007, Mr. Warfield facilitated a seminar for GSA that provided them with a core curriculum for elementary school children on ATV Safety.

From October 15-19, 2007, Mr. Warfield conducted a forty-hour college approved course on ATV Safety for representatives of the 4H. The seminar was conducted at Garrett College in McHenry, Maryland. Participants graduated from the training as ASI approved ATV Instructors and will be initiating ATV Safety for their respective 4H units in western Maryland.

The Outdoor Channel Television Broadcast featured Mr. Warfield during the filming of their series titled, "Ride To Adventure". The TV show, hosted by Mr. Bill Baker depicted the Browning Fork Trail System of the Hatfield McCoy ATV Trails Complex. Filmed on May 20, 2008, the show aired in January of 2009 on the Outdoor Channel. Mr. Warfield discussed overall ATV Safety in Hatfield McCoy Trails during the telecast.

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With the popularity of side-by-side recreational vehicles increasing, an organization to promote the safe operation of these vehicles was formed by the major manufacturers and distributors. The Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association (ROHVA) also received American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accreditation to develop a standard for the equipment, configuration and performance requirements of ROVs. In addition, ROHVA has published Safety Rules for these increasingly popular off-road vehicles. On August 27, 2008, Mr. Warfield hosted the “kick-off” event for this organization at his Sykesville facility. Representative vehicles include the Yamaha Rhino, the Polaris Ranger RZR, the Kawasaki Teryx, the Arctic Cat Prowler and the BRP Commander. The video of this event is included on the ROHVA website (www.rohva.org). Completed the ROHVA approved training on in 2010, Mr. Warfield has assisted several agencies including military and governmental groups in developing ROV programs. He has logged over 2000 hours as operator of his personal ROVs since 2006. As ROV DriverCoach Trainer for ROHVA. Mr. Warfield’s Training Facility in Sykesville, Maryland was designated by ROHVA as a DriverCoach Training Center, then one of only three in the United States.

On January 29, 2009, Mr. Warfield was the recipient of the ATV Safety Institute’s highest award for service, productivity and professionalism. The gold award was presented at the annual Chief Instructor’s Conference held in Irvine, California. In addition, Mr. Warfield received a service award honoring his twenty years of continued active duty as an ASI Chief Instructor.

The ATV Safety Institute hosted its first-ever Autumn ATV Safety Week on October 9, 2012 at Mr. Warfield’s ATV/ROV Training Facility in Sykesville, Maryland. This gave national media outlets the opportunity to experience the nationally recognized, hands-on ATV RiderCourse and speak with key staff members. ASI instructors, ASI Executive Vice President Paul Vitrano and Chief Instructor Warfield were on hand with new ATVs from all of the major ATV manufacturers. Joining national media outlets representing the NY Times, USA Today and Bloomberg were a local father and his two daughters, demonstrating the training for age-specific, youth-model ATVs. The event was videotaped and presented to CPSC at the CPSC Headquarters in Bethesda, Maryland on October 11-12, 2012 at the CPSC ATV Safety Summit event.

In 2015, a new 3200 square foot ATV and ROV training facility was completed on the Warfield property. The building previously used for training was refitted as a maintenance, service and repair building for ATVs and ROVs.

On May 19, 2015, the U.S. Congress House of Representatives invited Mr. Buck Warfield to testify and provide his expertise concerning ROV safety at the Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade. The hearing was held in the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, DC and addressed oversight of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, specifically the proposed legislation, HR 999 – the ROV In - Depth Examination or RIDE Act. CPSC had previously voted to impose a mandatory product standard for recreational off-highway vehicles (ROVs), commonly referred to as side-by-sides. Mr. Warfield testified that the mandatory standards proposed by CPSC could potentially cause ROVs to become less safe and that the CPSC ruling should be suspended until an investigation could be conducted by a third and impartial entity.

On February 23, 2016, Mr. Warfield was contracted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to assist a multi-Agency Committee study CBP Border Patrol ATV Injuries. Mr. Warfield attended and observed a 5-day Border Patrol Instructor Training Course conducted at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), in Artesia, New Mexico. He also rode on routine ATV patrol with Border Patrol Agents in Santa Teresa, New Mexico. The observations, opinions and recommendations Mr. Warfield derived from this investigation were reported in writing to HHS.

On July 21-22, 2018, the ATV Safety Institute utilized the Warfield Training Facility to update video and photographic presentations promoting ATV training and safe riding practices on internet and social media venues.

References

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