

H. Gene Hawkins, Jr., Ph.D., P.E.

Dr. H. Gene Hawkins is a Professor in the Zachry Department of Civil Engineering at Texas A&M University where he teaches transportation engineering courses to undergraduate and graduate civil engineering students, conducts research in the transportation operations area, and participates in numerous professional organizations. He also holds a joint appointment as a Research Engineer with the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI). He served as the Division Head of the Transportation and Materials Division within the department from 2004 to 2011. He received his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University in May 1993. He also holds Master of Engineering and Bachelor of Science (Cum Laude) degrees in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University. Dr. Hawkins is a Registered Professional Engineer in Texas. Before joining the TAMU faculty in 2004, Dr. Hawkins worked at TTI for 18 years. Prior to that, he worked in the private sector for consulting firms in Bryan and Houston. He currently also provides consulting and expert witness services outside through his own consulting firm.

Dr. Hawkins' primary fields of interest are traffic control systems, traffic control standards, driver response to traffic control devices, retroreflectivity, and visibility. Dr. Hawkins has been a principal investigator or co-principal investigator for numerous research studies, most evaluating signs, markings, and other traffic control devices. His research products include a large number of technical reports, manuals, peer-reviewed papers, and presentations on a variety of transportation engineering subjects. Much of his early research addressed driver understanding of traffic control devices and traffic control device retroreflectivity. Dr. Hawkins is a nationally recognized expert in the area of traffic control devices and the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*. Some of his most well-known work includes papers and presentations on usage guidelines for traffic control devices such as the *TxDOT Sign Crew Field Book*, *Freeway Signing Handbook*, and *Pavement Marking Handbook* and the history of the MUTCD. Dr. Hawkins has an extensive library of traffic engineering publications, which include a large collection of MUTCDs from other states and countries.

Dr. Hawkins is a member of numerous professional and technical organizations. In 2018, he was elected chair of the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, having previously served in many leadership positions within that organization. He is or has been a member of many committees within the Transportation Research Board (TRB), including serving as chair of the Traffic Control Devices Committee 201-2007. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE).

Dr. Hawkins has served as the Principal Investigator for over 40 projects, focusing primarily on signing, pavement markings, and other types of traffic control devices. Dr. Hawkins has authored or co-authored over 50 peer-reviewed journal papers and has many papers appearing in compendiums and other journals. In addition, he has authored or co-authored over 80 technical reports for the Texas A&M Transportation Institute.

Dr. Hawkins has received several awards in his professional and academic career. In 2012, he received the ITE Wilbur S. Smith Distinguished Transportation Educator Award, which is the highest academic award within ITE. He received the ARTBA Jake Landen Memorial Safety Award in 2018. He has also received at least five department and college-level teaching awards at Texas A&M. He was the 2010 Texas ITE Transportation Engineer of the Year. As the principal investigator of the Texas DOT project that developed the *Sign Crew Field Book*, his efforts were recognized by TxDOT with a Top Innovation Award in 2001. He received similar recognition in 1999 for his efforts as co-principal investigator for the effort that developed the document *Guidelines for Performing Traffic Signal Warrant Analysis*. He was awarded the TTI/Trinity Outstanding Researcher Award at the Texas A&M Transportation Institute in December 1998. His students have also won numerous recognitions including best paper awards, outstanding student awards, and fellowships. Several of his papers have won best paper awards.

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