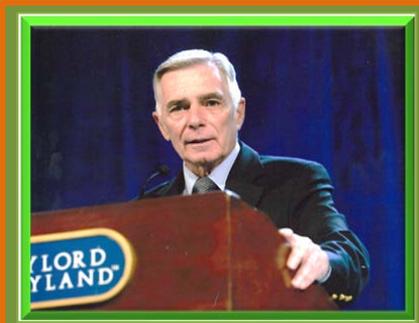


NHTSA REGION 4 NEWS



A NHTSA REGION 4 PUBLICATION TO EDUCATE, INFORM AND ACKNOWLEDGE OUR STATES, PARTNERS AND READERS OF CURRENT NHTSA AND REGIONAL NEWS AND CAMPAIGNS.



From Our
Regional Administrator

Once again, the holiday season is upon us and that means more of us will be traveling the roadways to visit family and friends. Our Law Enforcement Officers on the other hand will be working the holidays to insure that we are all able to make it to our destinations safe and sound.

Please take the opportunity to visit our website at www.nhtsa.dot.gov for the most up to date tools and resources to share with the public and with law enforcement.

Buckle Up America.
Every trip. Every time.



Thanksgiving holidays are one of the busiest travel times of the year, and with all the excitement, travelers can become more focused on celebrations than getting to their destinations as safely as possible. That is why wearing a seat belt is the single most effective way to save your life and the lives of your loved ones while on the road.

According to NHTSA, seat belts saved almost 12,000 lives nationwide in 2011. However, in the same year, 52 percent of the 21,253 passenger vehicle occupants killed in motor vehicle crashes were **NOT** wearing seat belts at the time of the crash.

During the 2011 Thanksgiving holiday (6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23, to 5:59 a.m. on Monday, November 28), 249 passenger vehicle occupants were killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes nationwide. Fifty percent of those killed were not wearing seat belts.

Nighttime (6 p.m. to 5:59 a.m.) is an especially dangerous time because people are less likely to wear a seat belt. Nationally in 2011, 62 percent of the 10,135 passenger vehicle occupants who were killed in nighttime crashes were not wearing their seat belts, compared to 43 percent during the daytime hours. Throughout the 2011 Thanksgiving holiday period, 57 percent of the passenger vehicle occupants killed in nighttime crashes were unbelted, while only 40 percent of those killed in daytime crashes were unbelted.

Research shows that with proper seat belt use, the risk of fatal injury to front seat passengers is reduced by 45 percent, and the risk of moderate to serious injury is reduced by 50 percent. Don't risk it on the road this Thanksgiving. Remember:
Buckle Up America-- Every Trip, Every Time.

For more information about traveling during the Thanksgiving holiday, please visit www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov.



NHTSA Region 4 News

NHTSA Adds Rearview Video Systems to List of Recommended Safety Technologies to Encourage Broader Use

NHTSA announced that it will add rearview video systems to its list of recommended features under its New Car Assessment Program (NCAP). The addition to the list of Recommended Advanced Technology Features was made to encourage improved rearview visibility for the nation's motor vehicle fleet and help prevent backover accidents while NHTSA researches implementation of a rear visibility rule.

"As we've seen with other features in the past, adding rearview video systems to our list of recommended safety features will encourage both automakers and consumers to consider more vehicles that offer this important technology," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx.

Through this action we hope to encourage consumers to take advantage of this advanced technology feature that can help save lives," said NHTSA Administrator David L. Strickland. *"As drivers rely on these systems, they should remain vigilant especially in situations where pedestrians, bicyclists and children may be present."*

For more information visit:

<http://www.nhtsa.gov/About+NHTSA/Press+Releases/NHTSA+Adds+Rearview+Video+Systems+to+List+of+Recommended+Safety+Technologies+to+Encourage+Broader+Use>

A Note to All Drivers As They Drive Through the Holidays and Every Day

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- D** Driver should be well trained and experienced.
 - R** Rest well. Fatigue can affect driving and response time.
 - I** Inspect the vehicle before every trip, especially the tires.
 - V** Vehicle weight should never exceed the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating.
 - E** Ensure all passengers are buckled up and side mirrors adjusted.
 - R** Replace old tires. Check the vehicle owner's manual for correct size.
 - S** Safety is First.

FMCSA Hosts CMV Enforcement Meeting

Darrell Ruban, Federal Motor Carrier Administration's Field Administrator (FMCSA) for the Southern Region, called together the Commercial Law Enforcement Agencies from the States of Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina to develop a strategy to reduce the 13% of the nation's commercial motor vehicle (CMV) fatal crashes that happen in these four states. The NHTSA Region 4 Office was represented by Chris Broome, Regional Law Enforcement Liaison.

As final plans develop around high CMV crash corridors in your states we are hoping you will take the opportunity to partner with CMV Law Enforcement Agencies and FMCSA in addressing these serious traffic crash problems. You will be informed as plans progress.



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Faking Wearing a Seatbelt... Can Lead to a Real Ticket.

The public needs to know that law enforcement officers are trained to know if you are wearing your seat belt or if you are faking it. Learn more here!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2jfUTiYHMvY>



**The Latest NHTSA
Traffic Safety Facts is
out!!! Early Estimate of
Motor Vehicle Traffic
Fatalities for the First
Half of 2013**

<http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/811845.pdf>



NHTSA Publication – Drowsy Driving

Drowsy Driving and Automobile Crashes: Report and Recommendations

This report, sponsored by NHTSA and the National Center on Sleep Disorders Research (NCSDR) of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health, is designed to provide direction to an NCSDR/NHTSA educational campaign to combat drowsy driving. The report presents the results of a literature review and opinions of an Expert Panel on Driver Fatigue and Sleepiness regarding key issues involved in the problem. **NOTE:** This is not a new report, but it is often requested by members of the public. To facilitate easy access, it has now been posted on NHTSA's website.

More Information on Drowsy Driving: (April 2013; DOT HS 811 727)

[Chapter 4 of Countermeasures That Work: A Highway Safety Countermeasure Guide for State Highway Safety Offices, Seventh Edition, 2013](#) and:

[Research on Drowsy Driving](#)

<http://www.nhtsa.gov/nhtsa/ImageLibrary/index.cfm>

What is NHTSA

Occupant Protection

Restraint Systems (safety belts, an airbag and safety belt combined, and child safety seats) offer motor vehicle occupants the best promise of surviving a serious crash and minimizing injuries.

Increased occupant protection also includes identifying improvements to the vehicle structure and interior components that would minimize the risk of fatalities and serious injuries in the event of a collision.

NHTSA's safety standards require motor vehicles and child safety seats to provide crash protection in 30 MPH crashes.



Law Enforcement receives assistance from unlikely sources.

Be safe, enjoy family and loved ones and have a Happy Thanksgiving!

[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=34Z-YSSF80&NOREDIRECT=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=34Z-YSSF80&NOREDIRECT=1)