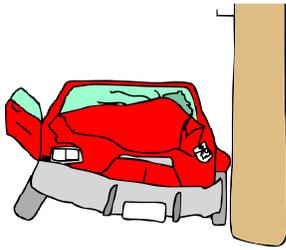


## “Motor Vehicle Safety”

The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in partnership with the Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) launched a promotional campaign, “Every Belt - Every Ride” at the National Safety Congress, September 14, 2004 in New Orleans to encourage federal workers to wear seat belts every time they ride in a vehicle on public business.



### Costs of Traffic Crashes

- ✓ Traffic crashes are the leading cause of on-the-job fatalities in America.
- ✓ From 1992 to 2001, half the federal workers who died on the job lost their lives in transportation incidents.
- ✓ In Fiscal Year 2003, at least 28 federal workers were killed in job-related traffic crashes and about 8,000 more were injured.
- ✓ Over the past five years, the U.S. government has paid out nearly \$75 million in medical and compensation costs linked to federal employee injuries and deaths related to motor vehicle crashes.

### Driving Defensively

More than 41,000 people lose their lives in motor vehicle crashes each year and over two million more suffer disabling injuries, according to the National Safety Council. The triple threat of high speeds, impaired or careless driving and not using occupant restraints threatens every driver – regardless of how careful or how skilled.

Driving defensively means not only your actions but also keeping an eye on the road. The National Safety Council suggests the following



taking responsibility for yourself and on “the other guy.” The National Safety Council suggests the following guidelines to help reduce your risks on

- ☞ Don’t start the engine without securing each passenger in the car, including children and pets. Safety belts save thousands of lives each year! Lock all doors.
- ☞ Remember that driving too fast or too slow can increase the likelihood of collisions.
- ☞ Don’t kid yourself. If you plan to drink, designate a driver who won’t drink. Alcohol is a factor in almost half of all fatal motor vehicle crashes.
- ☞ Be alert! If you notice that a car is straddling the center line, weaving, making wide turns, stopping abruptly or responding slowly to traffic signals, the driver may be impaired.
- ☞ Avoid an impaired driver by turning right at the nearest corner or exiting at the nearest exit. If it appears that an oncoming car is crossing into your lane, pull over to the roadside, sound the horn and flash your lights.
- ☞ Notify the police immediately after seeing a motorist who is driving suspiciously.
- ☞ Follow the rules of the road. Don’t contest the “right of way” or try to race another car during a merge. Be respectful of other motorists.
- ☞ Don’t follow too closely. Always use a “three-second following distance” or a “three-second plus following distance.”
- ☞ While driving, be cautious, aware and responsible.

## Seat Belts Save Lives

- ✓ Using seat belts cut the risk of death by 45% for people riding in cars and by as much as 60% for those traveling in trucks or SUVs.
- ✓ Seat belts save 14,000 lives each year and every state in the nation has a law mandating seat belt use. But 20% of Americans still fail to buckle up.
- ✓ Federal employees are required to wear seat belts – every time they travel on public business as passengers or drivers – by Executive Order 13043.

