



Quick Notes

from the Idaho Office of Highway Safety

June 25, 2012

Idaho Transportation Department - PO Box 7129 – Boise, ID 83707-1129
P: (208) 334-8100 F: (208) 334-4430 -- www.itd.idaho.gov/ohs

Fatalities for 2012 = 75

General Message from the Highway Safety Manager

Hi Highway Safety Partners:

This last week an event called “Walk like MADD” was held in Boise. I am sure most know, but MADD stands for Mothers Against Drunk Driving and was founded in 1980. The primary mission of MADD is to aid victims and families, raise awareness, and support advocates to stop drunk driving. As part of this event MADD national president, Jan Withers, came to Boise for participation and support. Ms. Withers lost a 15-year-old daughter to drunken driving and I had the privilege of personally hearing her story and how this tragic event changed her life forever.

In Idaho over the last 3 years (2009-2011), there have been 210 fatal crashes and 602 serious injury crashes involving impaired drivers that have resulted in 240 people killed and 820 people seriously injured: this represents 39% of all fatal crashes (and 40% of fatalities) and almost a fifth (19%) of all serious injury crashes (and 20% of serious injuries). The summer months of May through August have the largest percentage of fatal and serious injury impaired driver crashes with 46% and were fairly evenly distributed between the four summer months.

Enforcement plays a large role toward the elimination of drunken driving and the efforts of all our law enforcement partners are deeply appreciated. Education can also play a large role in that parents and role models can be a huge influence on young people’s decision about alcohol and driving. As a society we are starting to see more and more that it is just socially unacceptable to drink and drive. This is encouraging.

There is still much work ahead. The Office of Highway Safety has undertaken three significant projects over the course of the next 18 months that I believe will contribute greatly toward the elimination of death and serious injury as a result of impaired driving. I will report on each of these projects in more detail in coming editions of *Quick Notes*.

Now switching gears for a moment, I believe many of you know one of our Program Managers, Cecilia Awusie, departed from our office to become a full-time mom. Cecilia contributed greatly to our highway safety programs and her work was recognized nationally. Cecilia is greatly missed, but I have a feeling she will become engaged in community efforts on highway safety.

With this said, it is my pleasure to announce the arrival of Josephine O’Connor as our new Program Manager. Josephine (Jo) is not new to us as she has worked before as a Program Manager in the Office of Highway Safety. She left that position several years ago to serve in the capacity of starting and managing the Safe Routes to School (SR2S) program and it is a resounding success. It is a pleasure to welcome Jo O’Connor back to our office.

Thanks again to all our Highway Safety Partners that help us along “*Toward Zero Deaths.*”

Brent Jennings, PE
Highway Safety Manager
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Workers' safety is your business

OSHA Brochure "More Workers are Killed Every Year in Motor Vehicle Crashes than any Other Cause."

Texting while driving puts millions of Americans who drive on the job at risk every day. That risk continues to grow as texting becomes more widespread. As a business owner or manager, it's your legal responsibility under the *Occupational Safety and Health Act* to safeguard drivers at work.

This holds true whether they drive full-time or only occasionally to carry out their work, and whether they drive a company vehicle or their own. When your workers are behind the wheel doing your company's work, their safety is your business. That's why the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), which enforces worker safety laws, has joined with the Transportation Department, other Labor Department agencies and key associations and organizations to enlist the help and cooperation of businesses – large and small – in a nationwide outreach, education, and enforcement effort to stop the dangerous practice of texting while driving.

OSHA is prepared to act quickly. When OSHA receives a credible complaint that an employer requires texting while driving or organizes work so that texting is a practical necessity, we will investigate and will issue citations and penalties where necessary to end this practice.

Safety at work is no accident

Building a workplace culture of safety requires clear, explicit policies and sound practices. Send a clear message to workers and supervisors that your company neither requires nor condones texting while driving.

Employers should:

- Prohibit texting while driving. OSHA encourages employers to declare their vehicles "text-free zones" and to emphasize that commitment to their workers, customers, and communities.
- Establish work procedures and rules that do not make it necessary for workers to text while driving in order to carry out their duties.
- Set up clear procedures, times, and places for drivers' safe use of texting and other technologies for communicating with managers, customers, and others.
- Incorporate safe communications practices into worker orientation and training.
- Eliminate financial and other incentive systems that encourage workers to text while driving.

To learn more about how OSHA can help, visit www.OSHA.gov or call OSHA at 1-800-321-OSHA (6742). TTY 1-877-889-5627.

Are You a Safe Driver?

Teen to Teen: Most teen drivers know the risks of the road and most take the responsibility of driving seriously. But that doesn't mean they always make the right decision. Hear from teens about how they're becoming better drivers. Watch the video and share it with other teen drivers. View more: <http://vimeo.com/42045595>

Parents you are the key: Teens are four times more likely to be in a crash than older drivers. Parents can help teens avoid accidents by talking to them early and often about the risks and responsibilities of driving. View more: <http://vimeo.com/42160400>

Pedestrian & Bicyclist Law Enforcement Training

Great News! In 2011 *No bicyclists were killed* in motor vehicle crashes on Idaho's roads. This means it is possible to eliminate death of Idaho's vulnerable road users! Unfortunately we cannot bask in the glow of this accomplishment because as our analysts inform us "one year of data does not make a trend" but it is good news nonetheless. So as part of our efforts to keep vulnerable users safe, the Office of Highway Safety provided training to law enforcement officers from Idaho's urban areas in the Southern region.



Eleven officers from four agencies (Boise PD, McCall PD, Nampa PD, and Rexburg PD) took advantage of the specialized two day class with national expert, Peter Flucke, President of WE BIKE, etc., LLC. A former police officer, avid bicyclist, and certified League Cycling Instructor, Peter shared his expertise on how to best enforce Idaho's pedestrian and bicycle laws. In addition to the two-day class, the continuum included educational resources and computer based training.

The two-day POST certified class (did we mention it's *FREE*?) will be offered again in August 2012 in the Northern part of the State (Coeur d'Alene). Law enforcement officers interested in attending please contact: Donna Vasquez donna.vasquez@itd.idaho.gov (208)334-8102 for information.

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE TO RELEASE BICYCLE STAMP SERIES IN JUNE

According to a recent "*Beyond thePerf*" (newsletter) announcement, "With the issuance of these stamps, the U.S. Postal Service celebrates bicycling, one of the most popular outdoor activities in the country. Each of the four colorful stamps features a different kind of bike and rider: a young child just learning to ride with training wheels, a commuter pedaling to work, a road racer intent on the finish line, and an airborne BMX rider. Recent surveys indicate that Americans enjoy billions of bike rides a year. Bicycling organizations around the country report increased participation in local biking activities, and nearly half of all Americans say they would like more bicycling resources, such as trails and bike lanes, in their communities..." Here is a link for more information <http://bit.ly/IzqkhS>.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

If you would like to add an event to the calendar, please send an e-mail with the event details to lisa.losness@itd.idaho.gov

Date	Event Description, Location
June 30, 2012	Alive at 25 , Meridian Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
July 2, 2012	Alive at 25 , Boise Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
July 16, 2012	Alive at 25 , Boise Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
July 18, 2012	Alive at 25 Workshop for Certified Instructors , Boise, Idaho
July 19-20, 2012	Northwest Alcohol Conference , Boise, Idaho www.northwestalcoholconference.org
July 24, 2012	Alive at 25 , Orofino Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
Aug 17-26, 2012	Western Idaho Fair , Garden City. Inviting partners to participate in Highway Safety Booth! ☺
Sep 25, 2012	Alive at 25 , Orofino Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
Sept 30, 2012	The end of Federal Fiscal Year 2012
Nov 20, 2012	Alive at 25 , Orofino Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org

Quick Reference Guide – click on the topic to go directly to website.

[OHS](#), Office of Highway Safety

[ITD](#), Idaho Transportation Department

[NHTSA](#), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[FHWA](#), Federal Highway Administration

[2010 Idaho Crash Report](#)

Program Area	Idaho State Links	Federal Links
Impaired Driving		http://www.nhtsa.gov/Impaired
Distracted Driving	http://www.itd.idaho.gov/ohs/DistractedDriving.htm	http://distraction.gov/
Teen Drivers	http://www.idahoteendriving.org/	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Teen-Drivers
Bike & Pedestrian Safety	http://www.itd.idaho.gov/bike_ped/index_new2.htm	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Pedestrians http://www.nhtsa.gov/Bicycles
Seat Belt Safety	http://www.itd.idaho.gov/ohs/ClickIt/ClickIt2.htm	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Driving+Safety/Occupant+Protection
Child Passenger Safety	http://www.itd.idaho.gov/ohs/ChildSafety/index.html	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Safety/CPS
Aggressive Driving		http://www.nhtsa.gov/Aggressive
Motorcycles	www.idahostar.org	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Safety/Motorcycles
Senior Driving		http://www.nhtsa.gov/Senior-Drivers
Lane Departure	http://itd.idaho.gov/info/home_articles/safety_plan.htm	http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/roadway_dept