



# Quick Notes

From the Idaho Office of Highway Safety

January 2017

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

**Fatalities for 2016 as of 12/31/16 = 253**  
*(Initial number, may change due to unforeseen tragedies.)*



## Wishing everyone a safe 2017!



### Highway Safety Innovations

It is hard to believe that another year has come and gone. I am grateful for the dedication of law enforcement throughout Idaho that spends so much of their time focused on highway safety. Your tireless efforts do not go unnoticed. There are countless other safety partners hard at work coming up with ways to make Idaho's roads safer. I appreciate your commitment and passion! I wish I could name and thank each of you individually, but just know that you are making a difference.

Unfortunately, the reality we are facing is that Idaho hasn't seen this many traffic related fatalities in a decade. We were only an hour and a half into 2017 when the first fatal crash investigation began. That's another family and community affected by a tragic end to a life.

I'm asking every single one of you to focus your efforts in 2017 on innovative ways to reduce fatalities and serious injuries in Idaho. We need to expand our safety partnerships to those we may not have considered previously. We need to think of different ways to educate drivers on safe, attentive driving practices. We need to come up with more efficient ways to get the message out about our vision of Toward Zero Deaths.

I hope you take the time during these first few weeks of the year, as you are setting your resolutions, to brainstorm innovative ways to improve traffic safety in Idaho. Please share these innovations with your coworkers, families, friends, communities, organizations, social media, and with the Office of Highway Safety. New and innovative ideas are necessary today to change people's driving behaviors. I am excited to see what you come up with, and hope to share some of these ideas in upcoming issues of our Quick Notes. Thank you again for your strong highway safety partnerships!

John Tomlinson  
Highway Safety Manager

## Meet Ken Corder: Newest Addition to our Team at the Office of Highway Safety



In December the Office of Highway Safety welcomed Ken Corder to the staff. Ken will be working with the impaired driving programs.

Ken brings a plethora of knowledge working in the public sector having spent five years as the Public Relations Specialist on Mayor Tammy de Weerd's staff in Meridian. Although he wore many hats, Ken was instrumental in expanding the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council (MYAC) to the largest in the country and creating the popular Treasure Valley Youth Safety Summit educating thousands of teens, educators, and related partners in the process.

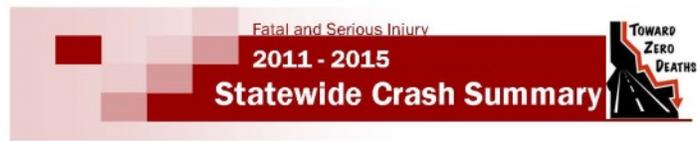
Through his City endeavors, Ken was turned on to the idea of saving lives as a result of creating community partnerships and outreach becoming passionate about highway safety in the process. Previously, Ken served in various community outreach roles in addition to being an elementary school teacher for over 15 years. Ken is happily married with 5 kids. Welcome, Ken! [Ken.corder@itd.idaho.gov](mailto:Ken.corder@itd.idaho.gov)

## Webpage Facelift

[www.itd.idaho.gov/safety](http://www.itd.idaho.gov/safety)



The Idaho Transportation Department has revealed its updated webpage. The website can now be viewed on IOS and Android platforms.



### Summary

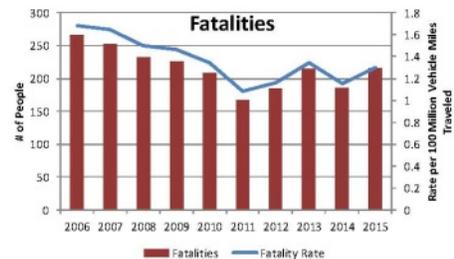
At the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) our Strategic Plan is "Your Safety, Your Mobility, Your Economic Opportunity." ITD is committed to providing the safest transportation system possible. Each year progress is made to eliminate death and serious injuries (SI) on Idaho's highways. Traffic safety professionals have addressed behaviors, infrastructure improvements and enforcement countermeasures to reduce crashes. The goal, "Toward Zero Deaths", is the foundation upon which we work.

All data and tables are 5 years of data, (2011-2015) except for the Fatalities and Serious Injuries graphs which are 10 years of data (2006-2015). The source of the crash information is the ITD statewide crash database which consists of crash reports completed by all law enforcement agencies in Idaho.

#### Special points of interest:

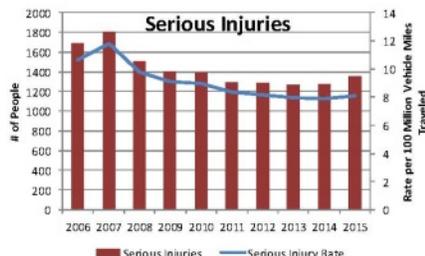
##### Fatalities (2011-2015)

- 894 Crashes
- 967 People Killed
- 58% killed were unbelted (passenger vehicles only ages 7 and older)
- 79% crashes on rural roads
- 15% crashes on Interstates (rural and urban)
- 42% crashes US or State Highways (rural and urban)
- 44% crashes on Local Roads (rural and urban)



##### Serious Injuries (2011-2015)

- 5,217 Crashes
- 6,519 People Seriously Injured
- 28% seriously injured were unbelted (passenger vehicles only ages 7 and older)
- 48 % crashes on rural roads
- 10% crashes on Interstates (rural and urban)
- 37% crashes on US or State Highways (rural and urban)
- 53% crashes on Local Roads (rural and urban)



Be sure to check out the new "Strategic Plan Focus Areas Statistical Sheets" which are located under the Strategic Highway Safety Plan tab. Each sheet represents one of Idaho's Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) focus areas. The data and tables are 5 years of data, (2011-2015). The source of the crash information is the ITD statewide crash database which consists of crash reports completed by all law enforcement agencies in Idaho.



## Safe Winter Driving

Winter driving can be hazardous and scary, especially in northern regions that get a lot of snow and ice. Additional preparations can help make a trip safer, or help motorists deal with an emergency. This sheet provides safety information for your residents to help prevent motor vehicle injuries due to winter storms.

*The Three P's of Safe Winter Driving:*

**PREPARE** for the trip; **PROTECT** yourself; and **PREVENT** crashes on the road.

**Maintain Your Car:** Check battery, tire tread, and windshield wipers, keep your windows clear, put no-freeze fluid in the washer reservoir, and check your antifreeze.

**Have On Hand:** flashlight, jumper cables, abrasive material (sand, kitty litter, even floor mats), shovel, snow brush and ice scraper, warning devices (like flares) and blankets. For long trips, add food and water, medication and cell phone.

**Stopped or Stalled?** Stay with your car, don't over exert, put bright markers on antenna or windows and shine dome light, and, if you run your car, clear exhaust pipe

and run it just enough to stay warm.

**Plan Your Route:** Allow plenty of time (check the weather and leave early if necessary), be familiar with the maps/ directions, and let others know your route and arrival time.

### **Practice Cold Weather Driving!**

- During daylight, rehearse maneuver slowly on the ice or snow in an empty lot
- Steer into a skid
- Know what your brakes will do: stomp on antilock brakes, pump non-antilock brakes
- Stopping distances are longer on watercovered ice and ice
- Don't idle for a long time with the windows up or in an enclosed space

### **PROTECT YOURSELF**

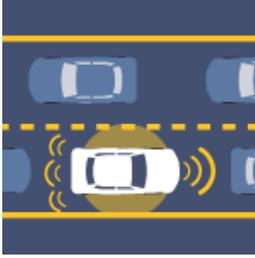
- Buckle up and use child safety seats properly
- Never place a rear-facing infant seat in front of an air bag
- Children 12 and under are much safer in the back seat

### **PREVENT CRASHES**

- Drugs and alcohol never mix with driving
- Slow down and increase distances between cars
- Keep your eyes open for pedestrians walking in the road
- Avoid fatigue – Get plenty of rest before the trip, stop at least every three hours, and rotate drivers if possible
- If you are planning to drink, designate a sober driver



*Highway 75 along the Salmon River near Stanley, Idaho. Photo by Lisa Losness.*



## The Department of Transportation and NHTSA are leaning forward on automated safety technologies that could improve safety. There is one reason that explains why: 35,092 people.

That's how many people died on America's roadways in 2015. In 94 percent of those crashes, we know that a different human choice could have made the difference between life and death.

Automated technologies could help address a large number of those crashes. That is why DOT and NHTSA are aggressively looking for new technologies that could help save lives.

There are real and significant questions about new safety technologies and automated vehicles, particularly in the areas of privacy and cybersecurity. So we are taking a deliberative approach, making sure effective safety advances reach the market when they are proven safe.

To that end, in January Secretary Foxx announced the Department's strategy on autonomous vehicles. That strategy has five main elements:

**First:** President Obama has proposed a 10-year, \$3.9 billion investment in automated safety technologies. That investment will enable a number of key initiatives, from funding large-scale pilot deployments around the country, to funding additional research into automation technologies and cybersecurity.

**Second:** NHTSA is using its existing authority to issue regulatory interpretations and exemptions to enable safety innovation.

**Third:** NHTSA is developing operational guidance for the safe deployment of automated vehicles. This guidance will provide manufacturers and other stakeholders with guidelines for how NHTSA expects safe automated vehicles to behave in a variety of conditions.

**Fourth:** NHTSA is working with partners to develop model State policy on automated safety technologies. NHTSA is seeking to help States develop policies that mesh with those in their neighboring States and with Federal policy, so that there is a uniform nationwide framework to enable innovation.

**Fifth:** NHTSA is working to develop a plan for what new tools and authorities the agency might need to fulfill our safety mission in this new era.

NHTSA is helping to lead this effort because vehicle technology has a proven ability to potentially save lives. Automated vehicles may be the next giant leap forward in safety innovation.

While you might not think of them as "automated technologies," today's vehicles already include several related safety features. For example, [Electronic Stability Control \(ESC\)](#) has been a standard feature on vehicles since model year 2012, while [Automatic Emergency Braking \(AEB\)](#) and [Lane Keeping Support \(LKS\)](#) are increasingly offered as options.

## Be Tire Wise, because the only thing between you and the road are your tires

Yearly estimates back up the statement. On average:

- Drivers in the United States put more than 2,969 billion miles on their tires,
- There are nearly 11,000 tire-related crashes, and
- Almost 200 people will die in those crashes.

Many of these crashes can be prevented through proper [tire maintenance](#) – including tire inflation and rotation – and understanding [tire labels](#), [tire aging](#) and recalls and complaints.

Because safety is top priority NHTSA and DOT want to make sure you have the tools to avoid being in one of those 11,000 crashes. TireWise is your resource to help you make smart decisions to keep you and your family safe, whether you're in the market to buy new tires or want to extend the life and safety of the ones on our car or truck.

*TireWise* is also a resource for tire manufacturers, sellers and other partners to provide essential information to consumers for choosing and caring for their tires.

### 2017 CALENDAR

To add an event to the calendar, contact [lisa.losness@itd.idaho.gov](mailto:lisa.losness@itd.idaho.gov)

Date	Event Description, Location
Jan 16, 2017	Highway Safety Office Closed – Martin Luther King Day
Jan 15 – Feb 28, 2017	<b>Grant Application Submission for Year-long Highway Safety Grant</b>
Feb 20, 2017	Highway Safety Office Closed – President's Day
Feb 28 – March 1, 2017	<b>ARIDE Training</b> , Nampa, ID – Register through POST
March 10-20, 2017	<b>Mobilization – IMPAIRED DRIVING</b> – St. Patrick's Day
March 14, 2017	<b>*Cross Examining the Defense Expert: How to Make it Count</b>
March 26-28, 2017	<b>Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities</b> – Charlotte, NC
April 11, 2017	<b>*Oral Fluid Testing at Roadside</b>
<b>April 18-19, 2017</b>	<b>Idaho Highway Safety Summit, Boise ID</b> <a href="http://www.highwaysafetysummit.com">www.highwaysafetysummit.com</a>
April 17 – 28, 2017	<b>DRE (Drug Recognition Expert) training</b> – Register deadline through POST 1-31-17
May 8-11, 2017	<b>Driver Education Instructor Conference</b> <a href="mailto:aurie@sde.idaho.gov">aurie@sde.idaho.gov</a>
May 22 – June 4, 2017	<b>Mobilization – SEAT BELTS</b> – Memorial Day Click it or Ticket
June 13, 2017	<b>*Jumpstart Your Investigation &amp; Prosecution: Resources for law Enforcement and Prosecutors in Impaired Driving Cases.</b>
June 21- July 6, 2017	<b>Mobilization – IMPAIRED</b> – Independence Day
July 11, 2017	<b>*The Basics of Prosecuting a Marijuana DUI</b>
Aug 8, 2017	<b>*3D Crime Scene Scanning</b>
Aug 18 – Sept 2, 2017	<b>Mobilization – IMPAIRED</b> – Labor Day

\*TSRP – Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor classes, click [http://www.tsrp-idaho.org/training\\_00.html](http://www.tsrp-idaho.org/training_00.html) for more information.



[Click to view or register for Upcoming Alive at 25 courses in Idaho](#)