



November 2014

The **Safety Coach** and **Tailgate Talk** are quick and easy tools to help you keep your employees safe on the road.

Safety Coach is designed for an office setting. You can use these resources at a staff meeting, or incorporate into email communications and newsletters.

Tailgate Talks allow you to take the message on the road and connect with your employees in the field.

Visit our website for resources
www.txdrivingconcern.org

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Safety Coach

DID YOU KNOW? Texas leads the nation in drunk driving fatalities. Remember - lots of times it's not just the impaired driver or passengers of that vehicle that get hurt, but the innocent drivers around them. That's why it's so important to drive defensively and be aware of other drivers that may be impaired.

KNOW THE SIGNS [Share this with employees](#) so they are able to identify unusual driving as a warning signal that a driver is impaired.

TOOLS TO BUILD AWARENESS Print or send to your employees.

[Mr. Drunk Driver check Payroll Stuffer](#)
[Beer Bottle Payroll Stuffer](#)

WHAT TO DO If you are concerned about a driver, drive defensively, allowing plenty of space between you and the suspected car to avoid a collision. Also, make sure you:

- Do not confront the driver
- Get the license plate number and description of the vehicle
- Call 911, local authorities or state patrol to report your concern

Taligate Talk

Texas leads the nation in drunk driving fatalities, but there are ways you can reduce your risk of becoming the victim of a reckless drunk driver.

- 1. Avoid late night driving.** The rate of fatal alcohol-related crashes is three times higher at night.
- 2. Stay off the road on 'Drinking Holidays.'** The holiday months are especially dangerous days on our nation's roads. These times of celebration usually involve some drinking.
- 3. Ride the right side.** Oftentimes, drunk drivers drift out of their lanes or

completely cross into oncoming traffic. You can reduce the risk of being side-swiped or hit head-on by driving slightly in the right side of your lane as oncoming vehicles approach.

4. Don't assume anything. For instance, just because a driver has activated their turn signal, it doesn't mean they're going to turn where/when you think they're going to turn.

5. Avoid country roads and two lane highways. Many of these roads offer poor visibility, challenging curves, and blind corners.

KNOW THE SIGNS Drivers under the influence of alcohol often display certain characteristic driving behaviors. Keep these in mind to avoid a dangerous situation.

- Weaving, swerving, drifting or straddling the center line.
- Driving on the wrong side of the road.
- Driving at a very slow speed.
- Stopping without cause or braking erratically.
- Turning abruptly or responding slowly to traffic signals.
- Driving with the window down in cold weather.
- Driving with headlights off at night.

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Questions? Contact [Lisa Robinson](#), CFLE, Program Manager, Texas Employer Traffic Safety Program, (512) 466-7383