



**Calendar:**

[Tie One On for Safety Campaign](#)

November 26, 2009-January 1, 2010

[National "Drunk & Drugged Driving" \(3D\) Prevention Month](#)

December 2009

[Impaired Driving Prevention – National Enforcement Crackdown](#)

December 16, 2009-January 3, 2010

[Impaired Driving Prevention – Super Bowl Sunday](#)

February 7, 2010

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In 2008, more alcohol-related crashes were reported between 2 a.m. and 2:59 a.m. than any other hour of the day. Also, more alcohol-related crashes occurred on Saturday than any other day of the week.

*In 2008, the Christmas holiday period had 46 fatal crashes and 56 fatalities on Texas roadways. The holidays deliver an increase in road travel and unfortunately, impaired driving. Our Driving Concern will address impaired driving and other traffic issues to help make the holidays safer.*

**There's Still Time to Attend the December Webinar!**

[Plan Safe Office Parties this Holiday Season](#)

December 9, 2009

10:30 -11:30 CST

Holiday parties are a great time to celebrate and have fun, but unfortunately it means more impaired drivers on Texas roadways. Be responsible in your workplace celebrations and set a good example. With careful planning and education, you can keep your employees safe this holiday season. [Register today!](#)

*If you are unable to attend, look for the recording on the ["Our Driving Concern" Website](#).*

**Spread Holiday Safe Driving Messages**

Find posters and flyers from the Texas Department of Transportation with holiday safe driving themes [here](#) and share them with all of your employees.

View holiday safe driving PSAs from RADD performed by musicians like Brad Paisley and George Strait [here](#).

**Gift of Safety**

Seat belt use is the most effective protection against serious crash injuries, including those caused by drunk drivers. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), seat belts reduce the risk of injury by 50 percent. Give the gift of safety this holiday season. Remind employees, family and friends to buckle up.

**Binge Drinking Not Just for Kids**

Many think of binge drinking as a problem for college students. A recent study reports this isn't necessarily the case. According to Duke University researchers, 22 percent of men, and 9 percent of women, aged 50 to 64, report binge drinking or consuming five or more drinks at a time.

The [study](#), published in the American Journal of Psychiatry, also found many older Americans are considered "heavy drinkers" as classified by the American Geriatrics Society.

**Ring in Safety**

Late night parties to ring in the New Year will surely take place across Texas. NHTSA and the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety conducted a [study](#) on where and when you will most likely find drunk drivers.

If you plan to drink on New Years Eve, do not drive. Designate a driver who won't drink or arrange for alternative transportation.

### **Safety Resolutions**

With the new year just around the corner, it's time to make resolutions for a safer 2010. Employers can resolve to improve education on safety both at work and at home to keep employees and their families safe year round.

"Our Driving Concern" shares these safety resolutions:

- Implement a corporate cell phone ban. Do not allow employees to conduct handheld or hands-free business while driving.
- Encourage employees with teen drivers to support Graduated Driver Licensing.
- Share free [Texas Employers Traffic Safety Program materials](#) with employees, including information cards, payroll stuffers and webinars.

### **Save the Date: 2010 TSCE**

The National Safety Council's 2010 Safety Conference & Expo is scheduled for March 15-17 at The Woodlands Waterway Marriott & Convention Center in The Woodlands, TX. More information to follow.

### **Get the Texas Challenge!**

The NSC Texas Challenge Injury Facts Quiz is the newest way to educate employees about driving risks. The Texas Challenge provides a weekly question and safety tips directly related to Texas roadways.

Ways to use the Texas Challenge:

- Download and print PDF posters linked in the quiz to hang around the building and share with employees.
- Use the quiz to reward employees for learning about driving risks.
- Share it with audiences beyond employees, including customers, vendors and citizens in the community.

To begin the Challenge, click [here](#).

### **Free Materials for Texas Employers**

Order innovative payroll stuffers and information cards, specifically created for you to communicate with your employees.

Paper cut-outs address the dangers associated with distracted driving, seat belts and impaired driving. These materials are a great way to communicate the risks of unsafe driving behaviors to employees and their families. To order click [here](#).

In addition to ordering print copies, you can also download, print and share these materials electronically in your own employee communications. To download, click on the PDF link on the shopping cart page.

(Feedback)

"Our Driving Concern" would love to hear your workplace safety success stories, problems and questions. Please send an e-mail to our Peer Advice column at [Debby.Young@nsc.org](mailto:Debby.Young@nsc.org) and your story may be shared with other Texas safety employers.

(Links to Resources)

American Journal of Psychiatry  
<http://ajp.psychiatryonline.org/>

American Geriatrics Society  
<http://www.americangeriatrics.org/>

Insurance Institute for Highway Safety  
<http://www.iihs.org/>

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/>

National Safety Council

<http://www.nsc.org>

Texas Department of Transportation

<http://www.txdot.gov/>

Texas Employers Traffic Safety Program

<http://www.txdrivingconcern.org>

(Boilerplate)

“Our Driving Concern” is a monthly e-newsletter from the Texas Employer Traffic Safety Program, a landmark driving initiative funded by a grant from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). This initiative is building a state-wide network of employer involvement in crash prevention for employees both on and off-the-job. Because you care about your employees and their families, and keeping employees safe means keeping your business healthy, this newsletter provides you with traffic safety resources from across the state. Visit us at [www.txdrivingconcern.org](http://www.txdrivingconcern.org).

Please send safety comments, experiences, stories or questions to:

Debby Young

Program Manager

Texas Employers Traffic Safety Program

P.O. Box 593

Bedford, TX 76095

214.435.3211

[Debby.Young@nsc.org](mailto:Debby.Young@nsc.org)