



November 2012

[Tie One on for Safety](#)

Nov. – Jan.

[Holiday P.A.S.S. Campaign](#)

December

[Know When to Pass Football Campaign](#)

Sept. – Feb

50%

Estimates indicate drivers using cell phones look at but fail to see up to **50 percent** of the information in their driving environment.

Source: [National Safety Council](#)

Holiday P.A.S.S.

This holiday season, TxDOT is focusing on the issue of impaired driving by encouraging people to plan ahead for sober ride home with the [Holiday P.A.S.S.](#) (Person Appointed to Stay Sober) campaign. Too often a designated driver is chosen during the evening and is the “least drunk” person in the group. Also, in many of our Texas towns and cities, mass transit and/or taxi availability is limited – another important reason this campaign message is about planning ahead and reminding our fellow Texans that [“Sober drivers make great gifts.”](#)

During last year’s holiday season (Dec. 1 2011, through Jan. 1, 2012) there were 2,462 alcohol-related traffic crashes in Texas, resulting in 842 serious injuries and 78 fatalities. Texans can help make the holidays merry and bright all season long by giving the gift of a sober drive home. Remember, it’s the most wonderful time of the year, but one poor decision to drink and drive could bring a devastating end to holiday celebrations. Share this new [infographic](#) with your employees this season and encourage them to always drive sober.

NSC Holiday Safety Materials

The holidays are a busy time of year. Most of us have some time off, travel by various modes of transportation, host parties and spend time with those we care most about. Many of us celebrate different holidays and have our own special traditions we follow each year. Make it a point to include safety as a part of your holiday traditions. Visit the [NSC Holiday Safety](#) page and share the information with your coworkers and families to help keep them safe this holiday season.

Know When to Pass – Football Campaign

Football game days are among the heaviest days for alcohol consumption, and TxDOT is taking the lead in tackling this issue. TxDOT wants to encourage fans to enjoy the big games, but to be responsible when it comes to game-day drinking and [know when to pass](#). Always designate a sober driver if you plan on drinking and if you are impaired, do not drive – call a taxi, use mass transit, contact the community safe ride program or call a sober friend or family member to get you home safely or simply stay where you are.

A 2009 TxDOT research report shows that 45 percent of Texans who drink while at a football watching party report driving home. And in 2011, more than 1,400 DUI alcohol-related crashes in Texas occurred on football game days when a Texas team was playing. “Like” the Know When To Pass Campaign on [Facebook](#) and stay up to date throughout the football season.

Corporate Liability White Paper

The National Safety Council recently released the white paper, [“Employer Liability and the case for Comprehensive Cell Phone Policies.”](#) which details the potential liability when employees are involved in crashes where cell phone use is a factor. This research includes examples of employers who have been held liable with awards

(MORE)

reaching into the tens of millions of dollars, including cases involving employee-owned cell phones and cars and in situations where employees were driving during non-work hours or engaged in personal phone calls. The white paper is free to [download](#) and more resources on distracted driving can be found on the *Our Driving Concern* [website](#).

Our Driving Concern Distracted Driving Posters and Brochures

Visit the *Our Driving Concern* website to download free posters and brochures on passenger restraints to share with your colleagues.

[Distracted Driving Brochure](#)

[Cognitive Impairment Brochure](#)

[Distracted Driving Poster](#)



Take 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 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 the quiz with audiences beyond employees, including customers, vendors and citizens in the community.

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 and your story may be shared with other Texas safety employers.

(Links to Resources)

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

<http://www.nhtsa.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>

Texas Transportation Institute

<http://tti.tamu.edu/>

U.S. Department of Transportation

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

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. This initiative is building a statewide 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 e-newsletter provides you with traffic safety resources from across the state. Visit us at www.txdrivingconcern.org.

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

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