

Sample Proclamation

October 10, 2019

October 10, 2019, has been declared Put The Brakes On Fatalities Day by the (TITLE OR NAME OF CITY, COUNTY, STATE OR ORGANIZATION);

WHEREAS, Traffic crashes in 2017 caused 37,133 fatalities which was a decrease of 1.7 from 2016. The crashes caused 2.75 million injuries. An average of 102 people died each day in motor vehicle crashes in 2017, one fatality every 14 minutes.

WHEREAS, In 2017, 47 percent of passenger vehicle occupants killed in traffic crashes were unrestrained; however, seat belts saved over 14,955 lives over age 5, and 4 and younger child restraints saved an estimated 325 children. An estimated 2,790 lives were saved by frontal air bags;

WHEREAS, Distracted driving is a dangerous epidemic on America's roadways. In 2017, NHTSA reported there were 3,166 people killed and an estimated 391,000 injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers;

WHEREAS, In 2017, alcohol-related crashes account for 10,874 or 29% of all traffic fatalities;

WHEREAS, In 2017, speeding was a contributing factor in 26% of all fatal crashes;

WHEREAS, In 2017, large trucks were involved in 9% of all fatal crashes with 72% being occupants of other vehicles, 10% non-occupants and 18% occupants of large trucks

WHEREAS, In 2017, motorcyclists accounted for 5,172 or 14% of all fatalities with 39% known not wearing a helmet. Helmets saved 1,872 lives in 2017 and 749 more could have been saved if all motor cyclists had worn helmets.

WHEREAS, The economic cost alone of motor vehicle crashes in 2010 was \$242 billion (most recent year cost data is available);

WHEREAS, Poor road conditions and obsolete highways need to be addressed in order to reduce highway deaths. The use of cost-effective roadway safety improvements such as all-weather signing and markings, traffic signals, skid resistant pavements and removal of roadside hazards could also greatly reduce the number of traffic crashes;

WHEREAS, The use of safer driving behaviors such as not talking or text messaging on cell phones, the use of seat belts and helmets (motorcycles), not drinking and driving, and obeying traffic laws would dramatically reduce the number of traffic-related injuries and deaths;

WHEREAS, The continued development of safer vehicles and protective safety equipment for motor cycles (such as helmets) will enhance people's ability to protect themselves and their families from preventable and tragic permanent injuries and deaths;

Now, THEREFORE, I (NAME OF ELECTED OFFICIAL) (TITLE OR NAME OF CITY, COUNTY, STATE OR ORGANIZATION), do hereby proclaim October 10, 2019 as Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day, and call upon everyone to help save lives by spreading these important messages throughout our communities specifically on this day and also all other days of the year.