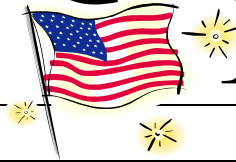




# Quarterly Report



VOLUME 28, NUMBER 2

April 2020

## April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month

Every day at least 9 people die and 1,000 are injured in distracted driving crashes. Cell phones, dashboard touchscreens, voice commands and other in-vehicle technologies pose a threat to our safety. Consequences of those distractions are not worth the convenience they offer. Ignore the distractions and #justdrive.

Distracted Driving Awareness Month in April is a united effort to recognize the dangers of and eliminate preventable deaths from distracted driving. Join us to help save lives.



April **DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH**  
The ESSENTIAL trio for driving: Eyes on the road, hands on the wheel, mind on driving



**NOT RISK FREE** More than 30 studies show hands-free devices **DON'T** make drivers any safer

**27 SECONDS**

Texting while stopped at a light can negatively affect full driving engagement for an average 27 seconds after texting



Drivers spend more than **HALF THEIR TIME** focused on things other than driving

Studies show voice to text is **MORE** distracting than texting by hand

About **26% OF ALL CAR CRASHES** include cell phone use — including hands-free

## The great multitasking lie

... from the National Safety Council

Many people think they are good multitaskers, but that is actually a myth, especially when it comes to cell phone use while driving. This information from the National Safety Council will tell you why.

The human brain cannot do two things at the same time - like watch TV and hold a phone conversation. The same is true when driving and talking on your phone. The brain switches between the driver's tasks, which slows reaction time.

**MYTH:** My car came with an infotainment system. Since it's built

into my car, it must be safe.

**FACT:** A National Safety Council survey found more than 50% of drivers believe this myth. But technologies that allow drivers to make hands-free calls and use voice commands to dictate texts and emails, change music and update social media can be distracting to drivers - even if they are built into the vehicle. In fact, the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety found drivers doing some voice tasks via infotainment systems may remain distracted for as long as 27 seconds after they finish a task.

**MYTH:** I know distracted driv-

ing is dangerous, but I can't afford to miss calls, emails or text messages. My job depends on it.

**FACT:** Car crashes are the #1 cause of workplace deaths with distracted driving as a leading factor in road fatalities. You can't collect a paycheck if you're dead.

**MYTH:** Most car crashes are caused by malfunctions such as faulty brakes, bad tires or engine problems.

**FACT:** 94% of crashes are caused by driver error.

**MYTH:** Talking on a cell phone is just like speaking to a passenger.

*continued on page 2*

# Highway deaths fell in 2018

Traffic deaths fell for the second straight year.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration attributed the drop partially to technology in newer vehicles that can prevent crashes. A total of 36,560 people died on the nation's roads in 2018, *the latest full-year statistics available*.

Those statistics show the downward trend continued into 2019.

But pedestrian deaths rose 3.4% and the number of people killed on

bicycles and other pedaled vehicles went up 6.3%. People killed in large-truck crashes rose just under 1%.

Alcohol-impaired fatalities dropped 3.6% in 2018 while fatalities attributed to speeding fell 5.7%. Motorcycle deaths declined 4.7%.

Most of the pedestrian deaths, 76%, and half the bicyclist deaths occurred after dark. Some pedestrians and cyclists had alcohol in their systems.



**IDC SCHEDULE**  
*(Instructor Development Course)*

*Saturday and Sunday*  
*9 a.m. - 6 p.m. both days*

**\$100.00**

All classes will be held at  
**USA Headquarters,**  
**8871 Tallwood Drive, Austin**

May 30 & 31  
 July 25 & 26  
 September 26 & 27  
 November 21 & 22

## 2020 top safety picks

### TOP SAFETY PICK +

*These models have standard, good or acceptable headlights*

**Small cars:** Honda Insight, Mazda 3 hatchback, Mazda 3 sedan, Subaru Crosstrek Hybrid

**Midsize cars:** Mazda 6, Nissan Maxima, Subaru Legacy, Subaru Outback built after Oct. 2019, Toyota Camry

**Midsize luxury cars:** Lexus ES, Mercedes-Benz C-Class sedan\*, Tesla Model 3

**Large luxury cars:** Audi A6, Genesis G70 built after Dec. 2019, Genesis G80

**Small SUVs:** Mazda CX-3, Mazda CX-5\*, Subaru Forester

**Midsize luxury SUVs:** Acura RDX, Cadillac XT6 built after Oct. 2019, Hyundai Nexo, Lexus NX, Mercedes-Benz GLE-Class built after July 2019\*.

### TOP SAFETY PICK

*Good or acceptable headlights are available on these models, but not standard. The vehicles qualify for the award only when equipped with those headlights.*

**Small cars:** Honda Civic coups, Honda Civic hatchback, Honda Civic sedan, Hyundai Elantra\*, Hyundai

Elantra GT\*, Hyundai Veloster\*, Kia Forte\*, Kia Soul\*, Subaru Crosstrek\*, Subaru Impreza sedan\*, Subaru Impreza wagon\*, Subaru WRX\*, Toyota Corolla hatchback, Toyota Corolla sedan

**Midsize cars:** Honda Accord, Hyundai Sonata, Nissan Altima\*

**Midsize luxury cars:** BMW 3 series, Volvo S60

**Large car:** Kia Stinger\*

**Large luxury car:** Audi A7

**Small SUV:** Chevrolet Equinox, Ford Escape, Honda CR-V, Hyundai Kona\*, Hyundai Tucson\*, Kia

Sportage, Lexus UX, Lincoln Corsair, Toyota RAV4, Volvo XC40

**Midsize SUVs:** Ford Edge, Hyundai Palisade, Hyundai Santa Fe, Kia Sorento\*, Hyundai Tucson\*, Kia Sportage, Lexus UX, Lincoln Corsair, Toyota RAV4, Volvo XC40

**Midsize SUV:** Ford Edge, Hyundai Palisade, Hyundai Santa Fe, Kia Sorento\*, Kia Telluride, Mazda CX-9\*, Subaru Ascent, Volkswagen Tiguan

**Midsize Luxury SUV:** Lexus RX

**Large SUV:** Audi Q8

*\*with optional front crash prevention*

## The great multitasking lie

*continued from page 1*

**FACT:** Backseat drivers are good for you. Adult passengers help the driver and alert drivers to traffic problems. People on the other end of the phone can't see what's going on.

**MYTH:** Speaking hands-free is safe to use while driving.

**REALITY:** Drivers talking on cell phones can miss seeing up to 50% of their driving environments including pedestrians and red lights.

**FACT:** I only use my phone at stop lights so it's OK.

**REALITY:** Even at stop lights, it is important to remain an attentive driver. For example, a recent AAA study shows that people are distracted up to 27 seconds after they finish sending a voice text.

**MYTH:** Voice -to-text is safe to do while driving.

**REALITY:** It is actually still very distracting. You're not only mentally distracted, but you're visually distracted due to the common autocorrect errors.

# What all parents should consider before letting teens ride with teens

More than half of parents in the National Mott Poll believe their teen has been in an unsafe situation riding with a distracted teen driver.

It's a common occurrence, with one in three parents reporting their teens are passengers with teen drivers at least once or twice a week, according to the new C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health.

And the rite of passage causes uneasiness among many parents, with three in five believing their teen has probably been in an unsafe situation while riding with a distracted teen driver.

Marie Snodgrass, parent of a teen and an injury prevention program lead at the University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital who heads the Mott Drive Smart Initiative says her job in injury prevention - including helping coordinate the Mott Drive Smart program that supports families of soon-to-be drivers - prepared her for the conversations she's had with her kids about safe driving.

But many parents may not think about discussing a teen's influence as a passenger.

"We put heavy focus on preparing teens to drive - but equally important is teaching them to be safety-conscious passengers," Snodgrass says. "We know that when teens drive with teens, there's a higher risk of distractions that may put them in unsafe situations."

"Teens need to know that both the driver and passenger play an important role in road safety."

Five tips to parents preparing adolescents and teens for carpooling with peers:

**1) Teach them to be safety-minded passengers.** Passengers can make a big difference in reducing distractions for the driver.

**2) Limit risks.** Parents should reduce risk to teen passengers by limiting carpooling with teen drivers in bad weather, on the highway or at night.

**3) Empower your teen** to speak up if they see a dangerous practice.

**4) Model safe driving -** set a good example for your teen.

**5) Keep the conversation going.** By preparing them to be good passengers you are also preparing them to be better drivers.

Car crashes are the leading cause of death and injury for teens. More than half of teens who die in car crashes aren't behind the wheel and their chances of being in a fatal crash are much higher when there is a teen driver, according to national statistics.

**EMERGENCY CONTACT**

In the event USA is experiencing trouble with our phone network, scan your requests and email to

**lbagwell@usatraining.com**

## Retrain

The retrain class agenda changes every September 1st. Classes are scheduled within the 12-month period beginning September each year. Every licensed instructor **must attend ONE class during the 12-month period beginning September 1, 2019 and ending August 31, 2020. Below are the remaining classes in this period.**

**AUSTIN**  
 USA HQ, 8871 Tallwood Dr.  
 All classes are 11am - 1pm  
 Apr. 3, 2020 (Fri.) **(CANCELED)**  
 June 5, 2020 (Fri.)

**HOUSTON**  
 Golden Corral Restaurant  
 13145 Northwest Freeway  
 Apr. 18, 2020 (Sat.), 8:30am - 10:30am  
**(CANCELED)**

*Cost is \$10 if you pre-register with a reservation form. If you do not have a reservation form, contact USA HQ. We will mail or fax the form to you.*

Continuing Education requirements **waived** for March, April and May 2020 expirations.

### 2020 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

*USA Training Company will be closed on the following dates:*

**April 10 (Fri) - Good Friday**  
**May 25 (Mon) - Memorial Day**  
**June 19 (Fri) - Emancipation Day**  
**July 3 (Fri) - Independence Day**  
**Aug 27 (Thurs) - LBJ's Birthday**  
**Sept. 7 (Mon) - Labor Day**  
**Oct. 12 (Mon) - Columbus Day**  
**Nov. 11 (Wed) - Veteran's Day**  
**Nov. 26 & 27 (Thurs/Fri) - Thanksgiving**  
**Dec. 23, 24, 25 (Wed./Thurs / Fri) - Christmas Holidays**

# License Renewals (Fee: \$25)

## STEPS FOR USA DSC INSTRUCTOR RENEWAL

- 1) Complete the 1-page Instructor Renewal form received from TDLR. TDLR will mail to the address they have on file for you, so it is important to contact USA with any address, phone or email changes.
- 2) Instructors will receive verification of RETRAIN/Mandatory Continuing Education at the end of the RETRAIN class. Attach the Verification of CE (pink certificate) to your completed Instructor Renewal. TDLR will only process Instructor Renewals with CE Verification attached.
- 3) Attach fee (\$25) payable to TDLR if postmarked before or by expiration date. If after expiration date, refer to fee scale on your renewal form or contact USA if you have questions. You cannot teach if your license is expired.
- 4) Mail to USA, 8871 Tallwood Drive, Austin, TX 78759. (do NOT mail directly to TDLR).

- ◆ **Check the expiration date of your USA DSC Instructor license. IMPORTANT: TDLR should mail Instructor Renewal directly to you sixty (60) days prior to your expiration date. If you do not receive a renewal from TDLR, contact USA immediately.**
- ◆ **Submit your Instructor Renewal form with Verification of Continuing Education to USA postmarked *NOLATER* than license expiration date. Preferably 30-45 days prior to expiration). You can not teach if your license expires -- so plan ahead.**
- ◆ **Keep a copy of your renewal form, check to TDLR and Verification of CE.**

**Please call USA at 512-346-2132 with any questions.**

<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Expires</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Expires</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Expires</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Expires</u>
Agee, Valerie	April	Dao, Jimmy	16-Apr	Howell, Heather	25-Apr	Olatayo, Asimiyu	19-Apr
Ali, Trang	26-Apr	De Los Santos, Jimmy	10-May	Jackson, Charles	21-May	Orr, Brenda	1-Apr
Ally, Mohammed	26-Jun	DeSoto, Dean	20-Apr	Jones, Reginald	13-May	Orr, Willie	1-Apr
Almazan, Shirley	26-Apr	Dumas, Nelda	5-Jun	Kpadobi, Anthony	28-Jun	Parsard, Sonia	30-May
Almazan, Pilar	10-May	Falls, William	22-May	McCoy, Diana	2-May	Preciado, Gilberto	28-Apr
Anderson, William	8-May	Franklin, Glynn	10-May	McKinley, Keith	3-Jun	Reyna, Anthony	14-Jun
Bontrager, Gerry	26-Apr	Germain, Pierre	7-Jun	Naqvi, Syed N.	24-May	Robnett, Ray	30-Jun
Broussard, Erica	5-Jun	Glady, Angela	9-May	Ngo, Tam	21-May	Shelton, Richard	10-May
Cleland, Vicki	4-May	Gonzalez, Francisca	11-May	Nieto, Arturo	21-Jun	Stefek, Randy	12-Jun
Collins, Keith	19-Apr	Gugudan, Franklin	15-Apr	Nieto, Bertha	21-Jun	Steptoe, Charles	16-May
				Ogbonmwan, Matthew	29-May	Tang, Suong	14-Jun
						Thomas, Cynthia	9-Apr
						Tran, Peter	10-Apr
						Vogelsang, Penney	16-May
						Walker, Kevin	21-May

## When approaching emergency vehicles....

The Texas Department of Public Safety helps enforce the Move Over/Slow Down law to protect certain vehicles stopped on the side of the road.


The law passed in 2003 requires drivers to either move over a lane or slow down for vehicles stopped on the side of the road with activated emergency lights. Those include police, fire, emergency medical services, DPS troopers and tow trucks, according to the law.

If the road has multiple lanes traveling in the same direction, drivers must vacate the lane closest to stopped vehicles. If drivers do not have an opportunity to change lanes, they must slow down to 20 mph below the speed limit when passing stopped vehicles.

Last year, more than 41,000 warnings and citations were issued for violations of the law.

**USA TRAINING COMPANY INC.**

**8871 Tallwood Dr.**

<b>CEO</b>		<b>President</b>
Janis Helm Cartwright		Phil H. Ward

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