



State of New Mexico

Department of Public Safety

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Operation Safe Driver

Santa Fe—The Department of Public Safety Motor Transportation Police will be conducting statewide special operations focusing on aggressive and distracted driving during a nation-wide joint effort to improve highway safety. These on-the-road operations will involve marked and unmarked police vehicles. In October 2008 during a similar operation MTPD issued 266 citations for speeding, following too close and other moving violations.

When commercial vehicles and passenger cars collide, the result is a deadly and costly mix of injuries, property damage, and death. In an effort to reduce crashes involving trucks, buses and passenger vehicles the New Mexico Department of Public Safety, Motor Transportation Police Division (MTPD), in partnership with the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA), and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), are working together to educate all drivers on the toll their behavior takes on society. The message: "Cutting it close can cut your life short."

Operation Safe Driver is a national awareness and enforcement campaign that targets improving both commercial and non-commercial driver behavior and performance through effective enforcement, education and awareness strategies. The program runs from October 18-24, 2009 across North America and is supported by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Governors Highway Safety Association, American Trucking Associations, United Motorcoach Association, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, and the National District Attorneys Association, among others. In addition to Commercial Motor Vehicle safety enforcement, MTPD officers will be focusing on aggressive and distracted driving by car drivers around large trucks and buses. In addition, the campaign is launching a public service announcement to educate all drivers about the risks of driving aggressively. The PSA can be viewed on the website www.operationsafedriver.com.

MTPD is a member of the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) which is an international not-for-profit organization comprised of local, state, provincial, territorial and federal motor carrier safety officials and industry representatives from the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Their mission is to promote commercial motor vehicle safety and security by providing leadership to enforcement, industry and policy makers. For more on CVSA visit www.cvsa.org.

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