

2024-12-30 TBT Safe Driving

Safe Driving

There will be 42 million Americans that are expected to take a holiday road trip this year, from Thanksgiving through the upcoming New Years Celebration! Driving can be convenient and less costly than air travel, but it can also be quite stressful, with traffic, weather conditions, and fellow holiday drivers to contend with.

S.C. Swiderski LLC wishes you the best during this holiday season, and cautions safety on the road. Please see these safe driving tips for staying safe during holiday driving:

- **Don't drink and drive.** If there will be drinking at your holiday get-together, choose a designated driver who will remain alcohol free.
- **Make sure the car is ready.** Be sure your vehicle is properly maintained, in good shape for travel, and ready for winter driving conditions.
- **Map your route** out ahead of time when possible. Have a plan and be aware of projected weather conditions.
- **Buckle up!** Ensure you and your passengers are properly restrained in seat belts and car safety seats.
- **Avoid fatigue.** Get a good night sleep the night before, take regular breaks, and share the driving if possible. If you are tired, pull off the road to a rest area.
- **Have an emergency plan.** Have a cell phone and charger with you so it can be used in case of an emergency. Keep the contact information for emergency roadside assistance handy.
- **Do not text while driving and minimize cell phone use** to keep your full attention on the road. Utilize a hands-free device if you need to use your cell phone.
- **Keep a safe following distance,** allowing for ample time to react to the traffic around you. If someone is tailgating you, allow them to pass. Don't try to compete with impatient and aggressive drivers.
- **Watch your speed.** Drive to the conditions and don't drive over the speed limit. Give yourself plenty of time to get to where you are going so you are not in a rush.
- **Remain calm.** Don't drive with road rage – This compromises the safety of yourself and the people around you.

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Revision #1

Created 20 January 2025 16:32:21

Updated 14 April 2025 12:03:35