

Role of Law Enforcement

Duties/Responsibilities

- Safeguard and preserve life
- Assist people in our jurisdictions through enforcement actions (includes keeping homes, businesses, and roadways safe)
 • Maintain all required trainings and certifications (i.e., legal updates, Equity
- Diversity and Inclusion trainings, use of force trainings, etc.)
- Use objective and reasonable enforcement actions while strictly adhering to the Constitution

Legal Rights of Individuals

- Understand consent: As a general rule, if a police officer doesn't suspect you
 of a particular crime, you don't have to answer questions or submit to a
 search
- Providing I.D.-In all states, drivers who are stopped for driving infractions must furnish identification when requested. (Passengers are not required unless the officer is required to; for example, there is a protection order / restraining order)

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Best Practices During Interactions

- Any interaction between law enforcement and the public can cause anxiety or fear regardless of the situation.
- Both law enforcement and the public need to stay calm (both in words and actions) so that the situation does not escalate.
- The public always has the right to go to court on any ticket that has been issued. If someone disagrees with the charge, the court is the most appropriate place to "fight the ticket."
- Follow the officer's orders (ex. Put your hands up...failure to obey and then reaching for something in a pocket would escalate the situation for the officer)

Defensive Driving

Prioritize focus and avoid distractions

Eyes on the road: Actively scan for potential hazards and be aware of what's happening 20 to 30 seconds ahead.





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Winter Road Conditions

- Black Ice Invisible hazardous ice patches common in Colorado
- Temperature fluctuations Create freeze-thaw cycles
- Common danger zones Bridges, overpasses, shaded areas





Winter Driving

- 42-4-1101 (3)
- Exceeded Safe Speed for Conditions (Indicate actual speed/safe speed)
- \$128.50
- 3 pts.



Essential Vehicle Preparation

- Winter / Snow tires
- Tread depth (minimum 3/16 inch)
- Gas tank at least half full
- Emergency kit blankets, flashlight, shovel, jumper cables
- Vehicle maintenance brakes, wipers, heater / defroster



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Winter Driving Techniques

- Gentle acceleration and deceleration
- Increase following distance
- Steer smoothly
- Avoid sudden movements
- Avoid sudden braking
- Reduce speed before curves and hills



Emergency Response Protocol

- If stranded stay in your vehicle
- Run engine periodically for warmth
- Check exhaust pipe
- Use emergency flashers
- Know your location for emergency services
- Call 911, *CSP / *277, CDOT 511



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Let's Talk Safety Slow Down, Move Over Move Over Slow Down Slow Down Slow Down Slow Down Slow Down



Slow Down Move Over Law

- 42-4-1402
- Careless Driving: Failed to Yield Right-of-Way to a Stationary (Emergency/ Tow Carrier/ Public Utility Service Vehicle/ Motor Vehicle Giving a Hazard Signal)
- Class MT2
- \$150 + \$17 + \$2.50 surcharge = \$169.50
- 3 Points on your license





Hands Free Law

- 42-4-239 (4)(a)(I)
- Using a mobile electronic device while operating a motor vehicle (1st offense within a 24-month period.
- TIA
- \$75 + \$11 + \$2.50 surcharge = \$88.50
- 2 Points on your license





Distracted Driving

- Distracted Driving leads to more than 15,000 crashes every year in Colorado.
- That is an average of 24 crashes per day.
- In 2024 alone, Troopers investigated 600 injury and fatal crashes caused by distracted driving.



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What are some distractions?











What are the consequences of driving distracted?

- Careless Driving: \$169.50 and 4 points
- Careless Driving Caused Bodily Injury: Summons to Court & 4 pts
- Careless Driving Causing Death: Summons to Court & 12 pts





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Speeding

- Speeding (1-4 MPH Over Prima Facie Limit) \$59.50, No pts
- Speeding (5-9 MPH) \$101.50, 1 point
- Speeding (10-19 MPH) \$174.50, 4 pts
- Speeding (20-24 MPH) \$255.50, 6 pts
- Speeding (25-39 MPH) Summons to Court 6 pts
- Speeding (40 MPH Over) Summons to Court 12 pts





Speeding

Colorado lost 751 lives to speeding between 2021 and 2023

In 2023, Speeding was the top causal factor in fatal and injury crashes and caused 257 deaths.



Speeding / Stopping Distance

Dry Road Conditions

Average stopping distance at 60 mph: 300 feet

Wet Road Conditions

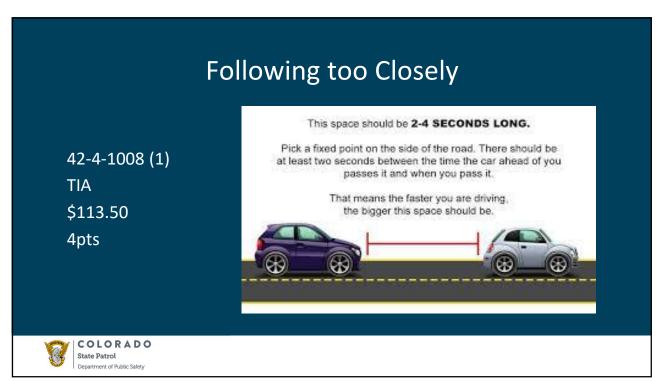
Average stopping distance at 60 mph: 450 feet

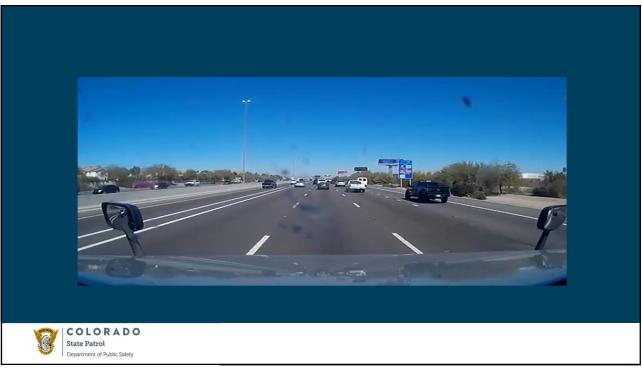
Icy Road Conditions

Average stopping distance at 60 mph: 900 feet



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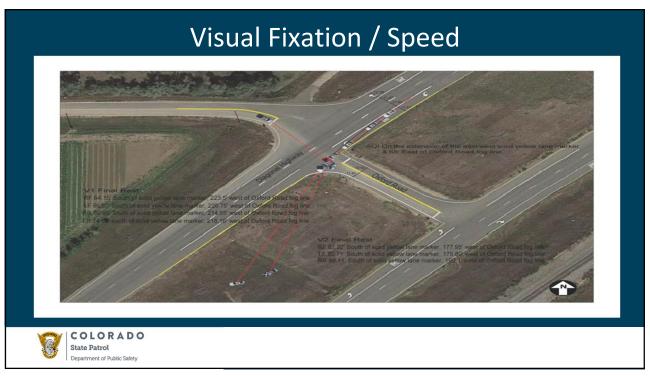


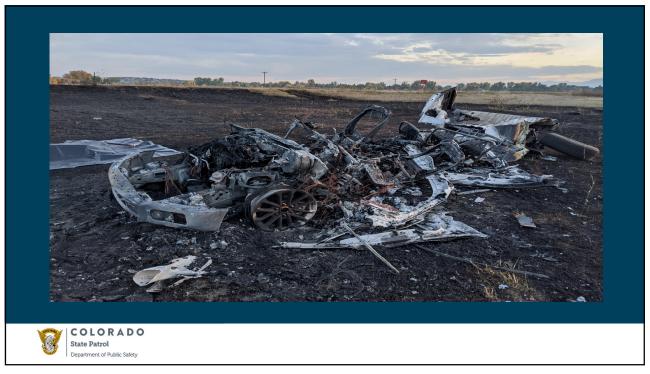
Understanding Stopping Distance

<u>Total Stopping Distance = Thinking Distance + Breaking Distance</u>

- Thinking Distance: Distance traveled while driver recognizes and reacts
- **Braking Distance:** Distance needed for vehicle to completely stop







Seatbelts over 18 Years of Age

- Operated a Vehicle When Safety Belt Not Fastened: \$74.50
- Operated a Vehicle When Front Passenger Safety Belt Not Fastened: \$74.50



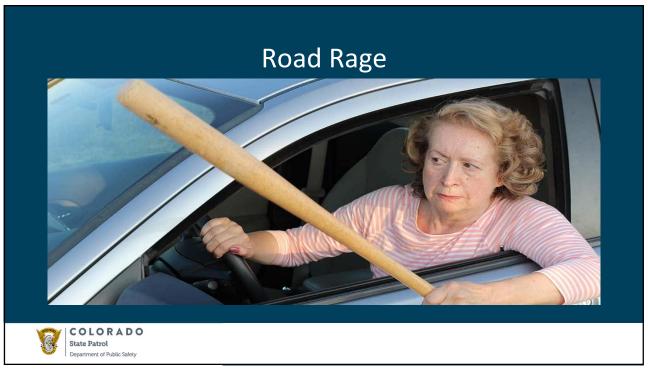
Secondary Violation!!





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Road Rage

- Fatal crashes doubled over the past 5 years due to aggressive driving
- Colorado now ranks 3rd in the country for road rage incidents
- 38% of road rage incidents involve a firearm
- 1 in 4 incidents that involve a firearm result in a death







DUI / DUID

- 42-4-1301 (1)(a)
- Drove Vehicle While Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs or Both
- Class M
- Summons to Court
- 12 pts
- BAC over 0.08
- Cost up to \$13,000



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DWAI

- 42-4-1301 (1)(b)
- Drove Vehicle While Ability Impaired by Alcohol or Drugs or Both
- Summons
- 8 pts.
- 5 days to 1 year in jail
- Alcohol / Drug evaluation
- Up to 2 years probation
- License revocation



The Colorado Express Consent Law

The Colorado Express Consent Law requires any driver to consent to a chemical test if a police officer has reasonable grounds to believe the person is driving under the influence or their ability to operate a motor vehicle is impaired because of alcohol, drugs or both.



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THANK YOU

 ON BEHALF OF THE COLORADO STATED PATROL, I THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO SPEAK TO YOU TODAY

