

Passenger safety







How the calendar works

The purpose of this calendar is to assist fleet managers in educating drivers about how to avoid involvement in motor vehicle crashes while performing work or non-work-related activities. The calendar isdesigned to provide daily safety messages for use when conducting driver safety meetings and contains a supplemental index with additional key points. The messages address safe driving techniques, key practices to follow and, where applicable, information concerning government regulations. In the message index, you will also find directions to help assist you to make the most effective use of the calendar.

January



						1 Maintain a safe cushion
						New Year's Day
2 Remember the ABC's	3 Polling results	4 Fatigue warning signs	5 Random testing	6 Passenger and luggage loading	7 Driving duty limits	8 Rejuvenating
9 At fault	10 Statistically speaking	11 Healthy choices	12 A visit to Real Ville	13 Stopping distance	14 Being a professional driver	15 Adjusting
16 Do you know the consequences?	17 Prescription and over the counter medicine MLK Jr's Birthday	18 Stay calm	19 Do not let it get worse	20 Self-assess	21 Relaxing	22 Why use seconds?
23 Be a back up pro	24 Exit and entrance locations	25 Lining up	26 CDL on board	27 Exercise	28 What is fatigue?	29 Sleep bank deposits
30 What are the risks of speeding?	31 Counting is key	Happy New Year Let's kick off a safe new year!				



		1 Your condition	2 Police and emergency services	3 The right stuff	4 Slow down for school busses	5 Housekeeping and maintenance
6 Dozing	7 Company policy on drinking	8 Conduct pre trip inspections	9 Top ten distractions list	10 Storms	11 Severe thunderstorms	12 Floods
13 Reducing risks	14 Footwear Valentine's Day	15 Communicate defects	16 Four-point wheelchair securement	17 Following company policy Ash Wednesday	18 Eliminate distractions near schools	19 Refusing a test
20 Cell Phones Increase Risk	21 Hours of Service President's Day	22 Interventions	23 The seat belt pledge	24 Driving physically impaired	25 Health and fatigue	26 Follow the doctor's orders
27 If there is a spill, follow company policy	28 Space and speed	Post OSHA Log By Feb 1, Post OSHA 300A summary log in a conspicuous place or places where notices to employees are customarily posted.				



		1 Pledge to not be distracted	2 Refueling	3 Engine and cab compartments	4 Stay visible	5 Federal cell phone restrictions
6 Avoid hard turns	7 Is your paperwork in order?	8 Information collection	9 Consuming alcohol	10 Nutrition	11 Driver education and training	12 Communicate the company policy
13 Driving privilege Daylight Savings Begins	14 Planning your route	15 A slippery problem	16 Get help to back up	17 Calculating your following distance	18 Making safe choices	19 34-hour restart rules
20 Changing weather	21 Heart disease	22 Company Seat Belt Policy	23 Severe weather	24 Roadside violation points	25 How IS my driving?	26 Responsible to whom?
27 Stay informed	28 Sleeper Berth Provisions	29 Healthy habits	30 Vehicle security	31 Tornadoes	Spring Forward Daylight Savings Starts: Check the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and replace if necessary.	

April



Save OSHA Log At the end of the month take down and file the OSHA 300A summary log with your permanent records.					1 Click it or Ticket	2 Inspect entrance/exit point
3 Quality Rest	4 Passenger behavior	5 Visually inspect the scene	6 What does distracted driving mean?	7 Watch for school busses	8 Captain of the trip	9 Electronic Logging Devices (ELD)
10 Overhead storage and racks	11 Handrails and other supports	12 Counter measures	13 Seat belts vs. airbags	14 Inability to provide a specimen	15 Improving your odds	16 Where and howfalls occur
17 Being a mentor and a role model Easter	18 Secure parking	19 Arrive Safely	20 Be aware near schools	21 Moving violations	22 Check and Inspect	23 Before backing up, take a walk.
24 Crash statistics	25 Medical card	26 Driver inattention	27 Top health risks	28 Rear-end collisions	29 Hours of Service	30 Exterior inspection



1 Maintain a safe cushion	2 Remember the ABC's	3 Polling results	4 Fatigue warning signs	5 Random testing	6 Passenger and luggage loading	7 Driving duty limits
	9	10	11	Cinco de Mayo	13	14
8 Rejuvenating	9 At fault Mother's Day	Statistically speaking	Healthy choices	A visit to Real Ville	Stopping distance	Being a professional driver
15 Adjusting	16 Do you know the consequences?	17 Prescription and over the counter medicine	18 Stay calm	19 Do not let it get worse	20 Self-assess	21 Relaxing
22 Why use seconds?	23 Be a back up pro	24 Exit and entrance locations	25 Lining up	26 CDL on board	27 Exercise	28 What is fatigue?
29 Sleep bank deposits	30 What are the risks of speeding?	31 Counting is key				
	Memorial Day					



			1 Your condition	2 Police and emergency services	3 The right stuff	4 Slow down for school busses
5 Housekeeping and maintenance	6 Dozing	7 Company policy on drinking	8 Conduct pre trip inspections	9 Top ten distractions list	10 Storms	11 Severe thunderstorms
12 Floods	13 Reducing risks	14 Footwear	15 Communicate defects	16 Four-point wheelchair securement	17 Following company policy	18 Eliminate distractions near schools
19 Refusing a test	20 Cell Phones Increase Risk	21 Hours of Service	22 Interventions	23 The seat belt pledge	24 Driving physically impaired	25 Health and fatigue
26 Follow the doctor's orders	27 If there is a spill, follow company policy	28 Space and speed	29 Seat belt use: Not optional	30 Winning the game		



					1 Pledge to not be distracted	2 Refueling
3 Engine and cab compartments	4 Stay visible Independence Day	5 Federal cell phone restrictions	6 Avoid hard turns	7 Is your paperwork in order?	8 Information collection	9 Consuming alcohol
10 Nutrition	11 Driver education and training	12 Communicate the company policy	13 Driving privilege	14 Planning your route	15 A slippery problem	16 Get help to back up
17 Calculating your following distance	18 Making safe choices	19 34-hour restart rules	20 Changing weather	21 Heart disease	22 Company Seat Belt Policy	23 Severe weather
24 Roadside violation points	25 How IS my driving?	26 Responsible to whom?	27 Stay informed	28 Sleeper Berth Provisions	29 Healthy habits	30 Vehicle security
31 Tornadoes						



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7 Watch for school busses	8 Captain of the trip	9 Electronic Logging Devices (ELD)	10 Overhead storage and racks	11 Handrails and other supports	12 Counter measures	13 Seat belts vs. airbags
14 Inability to provide a specimen	15 Improving your odds	16 Where and howfalls occur	17 Being a mentor and a role model	18 Secure parking	19 Arrive Safely	20 Be aware near schools
21 Moving violations	22 Check and Inspect	23 Before backing up, take a walk.	24 Crash statistics	25 Medical card	26 Driver inattention	27 Top health risks
28 Rear-end collisions	29 Hours of Service	30 Exterior inspection	31 Never pass school busses on the right	School Starts The new school year is coming, watch for buses!		

September



				1 Maintain a safe cushion	2 Remember the ABC's	3 Polling results
4 Fatigue warning signs	5 Random testing Labor Day	6 Passenger and luggage loading	7 Driving duty limits	8 Rejuvenating	9 At fault	10 Statistically speaking
11 Healthy choices	12 A visit to Real Ville	13 Stopping distance	14 Being a professional driver	15 Adjusting	16 Do you know the consequences?	17 Prescription and over the counter medicine
18 Stay calm	19 Do not let it get worse	20 Self-assess	21 Relaxing	22 Why use seconds?	23 Be a back up pro	24 Exit and entrance locations
25 Lining up	26 CDL on board	27 Exercise	28 What is fatigue?	29 Sleep bank deposits	30 What are the risks of speeding?	

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2 Police and emergency services	3 The right stuff	4 Slow down for school busses	5 Housekeeping and maintenance	6 Dozing	7 Company policy on drinking	8 Conduct pre trip inspections
9 Top ten distractions list	10 Storms	11 Severe thunderstorms	12 Floods	13 Reducing risks	14 Footwear	15 Communicate defects
	Columbus Day					
16 Four-point wheelchair securement	17 Following company policy	18 Eliminate distractions near schools	19 Refusing a test	20 Cell Phones Increase Risk	21 Hours of Service	22 Interventions
23 The seat belt pledge	24 Driving physically impaired	25 Health and fatigue	26 Follow the doctor's orders	27 If there is a spill, follow company policy	28 Space and speed	29 Seat belt use: Not optional
30 Winning the game	31 Relating	Fire Prevention Month Fire Safety Month is here!				
	Halloween					

November



		1 Pledge to not be distracted	2 Refueling	3 Engine and cab compartments	4 Stay visible	5 Federal cell phone restrictions
6 Avoid hard turns Daylight Savings Ends	7 Is your paperwork in order?	8 Information collection	9 Consuming alcohol	10 Nutrition	11 Driver education and training Veterans Day	12 Communicate the company policy
13 Driving privilege	14 Planning your route	15 A slippery problem	16 Get help to back up	17 Calculating your following distance	18 Making safe choices	19 34-hour restart rules
20 Changing weather	21 Heart disease	22 Company Seat Belt Policy	23 Severe weather	24 Roadside violation points Thanksgiving	25 How IS my driving?	26 Responsible to whom?
27 Stay informed	28 Sleeper Berth Provisions	29 Healthy habits	30 Vehicle security	Fall Back Daylight Savings Ends: Check the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and replace if necessary.		

December



				1 Click it or Ticket	2 Inspect entrance/exit point	3 Quality Rest
4 Passenger behavior	5 Visually inspect the scene	6 What does distracted driving mean?	7 Watch for school busses	8 Captain of the trip	9 Electronic Logging Devices (ELD)	10 Overhead storage and racks
11 Handrails and other supports	12 Counter measures	13 Seat belts vs. airbags	14 Inability to provide a specimen	15 Improving your odds	16 Where and howfalls occur	17 Being a mentor and a role model
18 Secure parking	19 Arrive Safely	20 Be aware near schools	21 Moving violations	22 Check and Inspect	23 Before backing up, take a walk.	24 Crash statistics
25 Medical card	26 Driver inattention	27 Top health risks	28 Rear-end collisions	29 Hours of Service	30 Exterior inspection	31 Never pass school busses on the right New Year's Eve



Responses

The safety message calendar provides a series of four monthly safety themes to share through daily safety messages during driver meetings. The weekly safety messages should then be summarized in a key point review at the end of the week. The review is designed to help you enhance learning and to help you reinforce safety themes delivered during the week. You will find the themes and daily message topics listed on the calendar, some only once or twice a year, others more frequently to keep drivers aware of important topics. Talking points along with additional safety messages relevant to each weekly theme, are found in this index and are listed alphabetically. The information and suggested topic order were designed to fit with a typical commercial vehicle fleet operation. However, you may wish to customize how and when to use them or create those that address unique organizational needs instead.

Jan | May | Sep

Day	Statement	Response
1	Maintain a safe cushion	A safe following distance allows for a safety cushion if unexpected hazards appear, road conditions change or the vehicle ahead of you suddenly stops or changes direction. If someone cuts you off, reduce your speed to regain a safe distance.
2	Remember the ABC's	Remember the ABCs: Arms (make sure wheelchair passenger's arms are close to the body); Belts (all belts secured); Clicks (listen for the click).
3	Polling results	for many years, government and research institutions have surveyed drivers across the nation to determine how they rate their driving compared to other drivers they observe. Driver responses indicate high ratings for themselves and significantly lower ratings for other drivers. Are you being honest with yourself about your driving?



Day	Statement	Response
4	Fatigue warning signs	 Unable to stop yawning. Trouble keeping your eyes open and focused, especially at stop lights. Driving becomes sloppy and you weave between lanes, tailgate or miss traffic signals. Finding yourself hitting the grooves or rumble strips on the side of the road. Finding yourself opening a window or turning up the radio to say alert. Driving aggressively to get to your next destination faster.
5	Random testing	If you are required to submit a specimen for a random test, you must proceed immediately to the collection location. Immediately does not mean within two hours. Immediately means that after notification, all the employee's actions must lead to an immediate specimen collection.
6	Passenger and luggage loading	Load passengers and luggage as evenly as possible to avoid placing too much weight in the rear of the van or in topside luggage racks.
7	Driving duty limits	Regulated drivers may not drive beyond the 14th consecutive hour after coming on duty following 10 consecutive hours off duty, and an 11-hour driving limit a day after 10 consecutive hours off duty over either the 60-hour/7-day or 70-hour/8-day duty limits. (Part 395 - Hours of Service of Drivers)
8	Rejuvenating	You can improve your physical health by maintaining a regular exercise routine that includes activities like walking, biking, or other forms of exercise.
9	At fault	If you strike a vehicle from the rear, you may be partially (if not solely) responsible, especially when visibility, weather conditions and vehicle controls are degraded.



Day	Statement	Response
10	Statistically speaking	Seat belts provide the greatest protection against occupant ejection. Ejection from a vehicle generally causes the most severe injuries in a crash. NHTSA has estimated that lap/shoulder seat belts, when used, reduce the risk of fatal injury to front-seat passenger car occupants by 45 percent and the risk of moderate-to-critical injury by 50 percent. For light-truck occupants, seat belts reduce the risk of fatal injury by 60 percent and moderate-to-critical injury by 65 percent. NHTSA also states that, of the 37,461 people killed inmotor vehicle crashes in 2016, 48 percent were not wearing seat belts. In 2016 alone, seat belts saved an estimated 14,668 lives and could have saved an additional 2,456 people if they had been wearing seat belts.
		The consequences of not wearing, or improperly wearing, a seat belt are clear:
		 Buckling up helps keep you safe and secure inside your vehicle, whereas not buckling up can result in being totally ejected from the vehicle in a crash, which is almost always deadly.
		 Air bags are not enough to protect you; in fact, the force of an air bag can seriously injure or even kill you if you're not buckled up.
		 Improperly wearing a seat belt, such as putting the strap below your arm, puts you and your children at risk in a crash.
		Source http://www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/seat-belts



Day	Statement	Response
11	Healthy choices	You are what you eat when it comes to good health, so the more you understand how to make good dietary choices, the better for your health. The same applies to understanding the benefits of counter measures to ward off fatigue. Fatigue countermeasures include:
		Obtaining a minimum number of hours of restful sleep.
		Employing napping strategies.
		 Taking sufficient rest breaks from driving.
		 Paying attention to variations in mood, motivation, and performance.
		With increased awareness, it is more likely you can act on the telltale warning signs of the onset of fatigue and waning alertness while driving.
12	A visit to Real Ville	Is the risk of a crash worth answering a text, answering a call, adjusting the radio, or eating a meal while driving? Here's one of many faces of victims of adistracted driving crash; In May of 2008, a young woman and her parents attended her college graduation ceremony. On the way home, a young drive talking on his cell phone ran a red light, causing a tractor-trailer to swerveand crash into that vehicle. The young woman was critically injured, and both of her parents were killed instantly.
13	Stopping distance	Speed limits posted on curve warning signs are intended for passenger vehicles, not large or heavy vehicles. Large or heavy vehicles should reduce their speed even further.
		Studies have shown that large trucks entering a curve, even at the posted speed limit, have lost control and rolled over due to their high center of gravity.



Day	Statement	Response
14	Being a professional driver	When you are a professional commercial vehicle driver, you know there are many rules to follow, including federal regulations, local and state laws, and ordinances as well as driving-related company policies. What separates a professional from a non-professional is understanding our society expects them to follow the rules, no exceptions. To be able and meet those expectations, a driver must be willing to accept coaching from others, be open to new ideas, willing to change, understand that the coach is not better than you, but may offer a fresh perspective that can be helpful.
15	Adjusting	When road and weather conditions deteriorate, or traffic volume increases, you should add more time between you and the vehicle ahead. Extreme conditions such as rain, ice, snow, and fog require adding space until you are sure you have time to suddenly stop without striking the vehicle ahead.
16	Do you know the consequences?	Driving decisions are often affected by outside influences that cause a shift of focus away from the driving task. Glancing down at a cell phone or other device for even a few seconds can be the equivalent of driving the length of a football field blindfolded. Remember, the consequences could be permanent.
17	Prescription and over the counter medicine	If you use prescription or over the counter drugs, you need to be aware of the regulations governing their use as commercial vehicle driver. The medication must be prescribed to you by a licensed physician. The role of the prescribing physician is to make a 'good faith' judgment that the use of the substance prescribed, or authorized dosage level is consistent with the safe performance of your duties. If one or more doctors are treating you, you must show that at least one of the treating doctors has been informed of all prescribed medication as a safe performance.
18	Stay calm	Be patient; do not let the behavior of others change your attitude about driving safely and making safe driving choices.
19	Do not let it get worse	Stop immediately, remain calm and breath. Secure the scene, move off the road if possible, and have passengers remain in a safe place. Set out warning devices and turn on 4-way flashers and follow you company's procedures on aiding the injured.



Day	Statement	Response
20	Self-assess	Bad driving habits often develop slowly over time as good habits deteriorate If you want to find out if you are as good a driver as you used to be try this, count how many times during a single day or week you:
		Follow too closeSlam on the brakes
		Fail to signal
		Cut someone off at an entry/exit ramp
		No matter what the total, the goal should be ZERO.
21	Relaxing	Learn to lower the stress associated with your driving duties by recognizing stress inducing situations. Identify situations or conditions that are common "stress triggers' at work and during off duty hours. Think about what creates stress before work, during work and in your personal life. Running late, financial concerns, personal relationships, traffic or maybe weather are just a few many people experience often.
		Worry only about those things over which you have control to relieve anxiety Remember, you will be calmer in a fast-paced world both at home and at work, by learning to recognize, control and manage our own responses to stress.
22	Why use seconds?	Why should I use seconds instead of a vehicle count (e.g., a couple of car lengths) as a following distance measure? A following distance based on a number of vehicles is not preferred because it can be too subjective. The length of vehicles varies—a compact car is a lot smaller than a large box truck or tractor-trailer.



Day	Statement	Response
23	Be a back up pro	One of the dangers of driving any vehicle and commercial vehicles in particular is letting good driving habits fade into bad h a b i t s.
		Basic safe backing precaution requires getting out of the vehicle to ensure the path is clear but is repeated multiple times a day or a week. This repetition often reveals no hazards to avoid. As a result, it becomes easier to assume it unlikely that you will encounter another object. But a professional driver knows that collisions usually occur while backing up.
		Do not drive like an amateur; be a pro. Be prepared and alert and follow basic and company backing up procedures.
24	Exit and entrance locations	Be sure to review exit and entrance locations with passengers prior to beginning a trip.
25	Lining up	Be sure that you begin the backing maneuver by avoiding blind side backing. If needed, you should go around and re-position your vehicle. Having your mirrors aligned and in good condition will increase your visible line of sight. Remember, it is the responsibility of the driver to back up safely at all times whether using an assistant or not.
26	CDL on board	Make it a habit to ensure your medical card is with you at all times when driving as required by the Federal Motor Carriers Safety Regulations. Not having a medical card during a roadside inspection will result in a violation, and the points can affect the US DOT CSA rating for you and the motor carrier.
		 Do you always check your CDL before you leave home or your vehicle each day? Driving without a CDL in your possession can result in a violation of eight points charged to you and the motor carrier. Do you know your CDL expiration date; do you have endorsements needed to perform your duties? Driving without the proper endorsements results in an 8-point severity rating for each missing endorsement.



Day	Statement	Response
27	Exercise	Regular physical activity helps improve your overall health and fitness and reduces your risk for many chronic diseases. It may seem difficult at first to find the time or energy to exercise, but even a little exercise a few days a week can help improve your health. Whether on the road (at rest areas and truck stops) or at home, try and go for short walks, do some push-ups, jumping jacks, stretch and engage in other physical activity.
		Always check with your doctor first to be sure you are able to perform new physical activities.
		Source
		http://www.cdc.gov/physicalactivity/everyone/guidelines/index.html
28	What is fatigue?	Fatigue is defined as mental or physical exhaustion and extreme tiredness or weariness resulting from physical or mental activity. Fatigue can be a symptom of a medical condition, but more commonly, it is a normal physiological reaction to:
		 Exertion
		Lack of sleep
		• Boredom
		Changes of sleep-wake schedules
		• Stress
		How many of these do you think can affect your driving?
29	Sleep bank deposits	Adequate sleep means getting at least seven to nine hours of sleep. Schedule breaks about every 100 miles or two hours during long trips. Avoid having any alcohol or sedating medications prior to your trip. Check your medicine labels or ask your doctor.
30	What are the risks of speeding?	Traveling 65mph in a 55mph zone increases your odds of being in a collision by 31%. (ATRI) Speeding can increase liability in a crash situation. Observe reduced speeds in school, construction, and hospital zones. Remember, as aprofessional driver the expectations are high, but you are the person who may suffer the unfortunate consequences.



Day	Statement	Response
31	Counting is key	How do I know if I am leaving enough space between myself and the vehicle ahead? At a minimum, there should be at least six seconds of separation between your vehicle and the vehicle ahead.



Day	Statement	Response
1	Your condition	As the driver, you are the final safety link when the journey begins. Your ability to think clearly, choose wisely and act quickly largely determines whether you will successfully and safely complete your trip.
2	Police and emergency services	Call for help from police and emergency services and notify your company contact person.
3	The right stuff	Professional drivers know they have a responsibility for the safety of other drivers, co-workers, other motorists, company vehicles and equipment.
4	Slow down for school busses	Slow down while approaching children that are awaiting school busses. Always stop for busses and wait patiently until all children have crossed the street safely. Pay attention to bus signals and wait until the bus has begun moving before you proceed.
5	Housekeeping and maintenance	Check deck plates regularly and repair when faulty; keep trailer floors in good shape and dispose of string, shrink wrap, dunnage, and other debris both in and around trucks, trailers, and shipping docks.
6	Dozing	'But I only closed my eyes for a second!' At 60mph, a single second translates to speeding along for 88 feet—that's the length of two school busses. According to the NHTSA, drowsy driving causes approximately 80,000+ crashes a year. These accidents result in an estimated 35,000 injuries and 1,000 deaths. Those who sleep less than six hours are three times more likely to be involved in a crash. Get adequate sleep—most adults need 7-9 hours to maintain proper alertness during the day.
7	Company policy on drinking	Announce and/or provide company policy on drinking and passenger behavior.
8	Conduct pre trip inspections	Conduct pre-trip inspections of all securement equipment for seats and wheelchairs or other portable sitting equipment.



Day	Statement	Response
9	Top ten distractions list	NHTSA has published a list of the top ten driving distractions. They are:
		Excess drowsiness or falling asleep
		 Operating a cell phone or other hand-held device
		 Talking on a cell phone or to another passenger
		Reading or looking at a map
		Eating or drinking
		Applying cosmetics
		Reaching for a CD or adjusting the radio
		Reaching for an object that is sliding off the seat
		Looking at surroundings (rubbernecking
		An insect inside the vehicle
10	Storms	If you live in an area prone to violent weather, you can find advanced forecast available through the local media or the National Weather Service, or you can obtain a weather alert device to provide notice of possible or imminent storms
11	Severe thunderstorms	Consider these safety tips: in thunderstorms and lightning, take shelter, stay indoors, and stay away from doors and windows; avoid using appliances and taking baths or showers.
12	Floods	Streams and river conditions can change dramatically when the snow is melting or during high levels of sustained rainfall. The force of flood waters callift people, buildings, cars and trucks off of the ground. If possible, you should turn off utilities until notified by authorities it is safe to resume their use. Remember to inspect any trailers or tractors that may have been submerged while parked in a flooded area. Check your cargo, wheels, seals, brakes, or other components for water infiltration.
13	Reducing risks	As a professional driver, you are expected to comply with the posted speed limits. For large vehicles, the stopping distances are greater than smaller vehicles, and highway speed limits are often set differently for trucks. Lowering speed gives you the time to see ahead and the ability to adjust to adverse conditions as they develop.



Day	Statement	Response
14	Footwear	Wear sturdy footwear with slip-resistant soles. You should know the situations and climate you will face each day.
15	Communicate defects	Submit written vehicle condition reports after every trip to maintenance personnel to ensure all defects are repaired before becoming a danger to safe operation of vehicles.
16	Four-point wheelchair securement	Use four-point wheelchair securement with tie downs, three-point seatbelt securement for passengers, and turn off powered wheelchairs and lock wheels.
17	Following company policy	Follow company policy concerning the handling of unruly passengers and alcohol.
18	Eliminate distractions near schools	Eliminate distractions in your vehicle. Consider turning off or turning down the radio, do not use your cell phone, or adjust any other electronic devices, and increase your alertness in and around school zones. Anticipate the children will disobey posted crossing signs and be prepared to s t o p.
19	Refusing a test	No employer shall permit a driver who refuses to submit to drug tests and medical evaluations to perform or continue to perform safety-sensitive functions (FMCSA Section 382.307: Reasonable Suspicion Testing).
		 Some testing situations that drivers may not be aware of include: Failing to provide a urine specimen for any drug test, not including a preemployment test.
		 Failing to provide a sufficient amount of urine when directed, and it has been determined, through a required medical evaluation, that there was no adequate medical explanation for the failure.
		 Failing to or declining to take a second test as directed by the employer or collector.
		 Failing to undergo a medical examination or evaluation as directed by the MRO as part of the verification process.



Statement Cell Phones Increase Risk	Driving while talking on cell phones (handheld and hands-free) increases risk of injury and property damage crashes four-fold. Review your company cellphone/distracted driving policy.
	risk of injury and property damage crashes four-fold.
	Review your company cellphone/distracted driving policy.
Hours of Service	10-Hour Driving Limit: May drive a maximum of 10 hours after 8 consecutive hours off duty.
	15-Hour Limit: May not drive after having been on duty for 15 hours, following 8 consecutive hours off duty. Off-duty time is not included in the 15-hour period.
	60/70-Hour Limit: May not drive after 60/70 hours on duty in 7/8 consecutive days.
	Sleeper Berth Provision: Drivers using a sleeper berth must take at least 8 hours in the sleeper berth and may split the sleeper berth time into two periods provided nether is less than 2 hours.
	Please periodically check the FMCSA website for any HOS changes throughout the year.
Interventions	As a driver, you have probably noticed another driver's attitude regarding safe driving is questionable or high risk in nature. As a fellow employee or friend, do not ignore the problem or avoid talking to them. You could be helping them keep their job, their life and/or save the lives of others.
The seat belt pledge	Take the pledge: I will wear my safety belt because my wellbeing greatly affects my family and loved ones. It is my responsibility to maintain control of my vehicle. Using my safety belt is my best chance of remaining in control of my vehicle in a crash or emergency situation. I will always remember to buckle up.
	Service Interventions The seat belt



Day	Statement	Response
24	Driving physically impaired	Being awake for 18 hours is equal to a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.08%, which is legally drunk and leaves you an increased risk for a crash. Source http://drowsydriving.org/about/detection-and-prevention
25	Health and fatigue	Drivers who are generally more health conscious in their beliefs and behaviors, and who are more physically fit, are more likely to maintain continuously high levels of driving alertness and attention. Source http://www.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/drowsy_driving1/listening/Sect3.htm
26	Followthe doctor's orders	If your physician requires you take prescription medications, receive therapy, or follow special dietary guidelines, be sure that you follow the instructions for your personal health and safety while driving.
27	If there is a spill, follow company policy	Be sure to have a copy of the company spill and emergency response procedures and emergency telephone numbers of those designated to help manage the consequences of a spill involving a load of hazardous materials.
28	Space and speed	Are you driving a safe distance from the vehicle ahead? If it suddenly and unexpectedly stops can you stop in time? Drive at a speed that allows you time to see and react to a panic stop of the vehicle in front of you.
29	Seat belt use: Not optional	In accordance with Section 392.16 of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSR), all CMV drivers must be belted, including anyone in the sleeper berth. The regulations say that a CMV with a seat belt assembly installed at the driver's seat shall not be driven unless the driver has properly restrained himself or herself with the seat belt assembly.
30	Winning the game	Many successful and celebrated sports coaches often tell their players, "Let the game come to you," meaning do not push things just to get your way. Being relaxed and confident allows you to see the "play" developing and the time to be sure you make the right decisions.



Day	Statement	Response
31	Relating	Improving and maintaining your health will improve your chances of living longer, spending more quality time with your family, and enjoying your hobbies and other fun and important parts of life. In addition, your ability to be effective at your job can be enhanced by staying healthy.



Day	Statement	Response
1	Pledge to not be distracted	Take the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration pledge. Encourage your family and friends to do so too.
		Download the NHTSA form at http://www.distraction.gov/take-action/take-the-pledge.html
2	Refueling	Maintaining a healthy diet helps you to sustain the necessary energy and alertness needed to drive safely.
3	Engine and cab compartments	Check for correct coolant level, inspect defrosting and heating equipment and check wipers and windshield washers to ensure that they are working. Carry spare wiper blades and extra washer fluid. Check tire chains to ensure they are free of broken or missing links and straps. Check exhaust systems for signs of soot marks indicating possible exhaust leakage.
4	Stay visible	Turn on your headlights to increase YOUR visibility to others. Being visible is critical to alerting other vehicles and pedestrians of your presence.
5	Federal cell phone restrictions	All regulated commercial vehicle drivers must follow the requirements regarding distracted driving, e.g., using cell phones and other mobile communication devices. There are driver penalties up to \$2,750 for the first offense and for each offense thereafter. CDL privileges could be suspended, and employers could be fined up to \$11,000.
6	Avoid hard turns	Avoid hard turns, sudden stops, quick accelerations, and driving over curbs or through potholes. Most of all, avoid being involved in a collision.
7	Is your paperwork in order?	Know and understand the information. Replace any missing information or forms; if unsure, contact a supervisor or responsible party(s). Do not hesitate to ask questions.
8	Information collection	Collect information at the scene including exchanging information with others including names and phone numbers. Make no statements, admission of fault, or otherwise volunteer information.



Day	Statement	Response
9	Consuming alcohol	No driver shall perform safety-sensitive functions within four hours after using alcohol (FMCSA Section 382.207: Pre-duty use).
		Using alcohol means even one drink. No driver required to take a post-accident alcohol test shall use alcohol for eight hours following the accident or until after he/she is tested.
10	Nutrition	Did you know that half of your plate each meal should be fruits and vegetables? Healthy diets rich in fruits and vegetables may reduce the risk of cancer and other chronic diseases. Fruits and vegetables also provide essential vitamins and minerals, fiber and other substances that are important for good health. Most fruits and vegetables are naturally low in fat and calorie and are filling.
		Source http://www.cdc.gov/nutrition/everone/fruitsvegetables/index.html
11	Driver education and training	Employers are required to provide educational materials about alcohol and controlled substance regulations, along with the employer's policies and procedures regarding meeting the requirements of the regulations. Drivers must sign a form confirming receipt of this information.
12	Communicate the company policy	Communicate company policy to all passengers during the reservation process or at ticketing.
13	Driving privilege	Avoid losing driving privileges due to administrative cancellation resulting from a failure to pay tickets or report a change of address.
14	Planning your route	Know if there are any travel restrictions on your route, be prepared to be stranded or delayed, check weather and road conditions from TV or radio stations, or internet websites such as the FHWA's national weather and road map, designated traffic hotlines, local police, emergency response personnel and state police. www.fhwa.dot.gov/trafficinfo/



Day	Statement	Response
15	A slippery problem	According the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) 2016 report, Slips, trips, and falls (STFs) are the number one cause of injuries in the workplace. S/T/Fs cause 16 percent of all workplace deaths and are third only to motor vehicles and violence and other injuries by persons or animals as a cause of fatalities. STFs can result in head injuries, back injuries, broken bones, cuts and lacerations, sprained muscles, or even death. Slip, trip and fall incidents are usually placed in one of two major categories: fall from elevation, such as from steps, ladders, platforms, flatbed, or tanker trailers, etc. and falls on the same level, such as on uneven surfaces, slippery surfaces, curbs, etc.
16	Get help to back up	 When preparing to back up using someone to guide you make sure that: They are in a safe but appropriate position to see hazards and be seen by the driver. You and your guide have agreed on the hand signals to be used before backing up. You and the guide should recall the path of travel is more than the ground It is important to look up and around the trailer for sufficient clearance.
17	Calculating your following distance	To calculate a six-second following distance, watch the vehicle in front of you pass a non-moving object (e.g., overhead bridge, streetlight, billboard, tree, etc.) and begin counting (one thousand one, one thousand two, etc.). By the time you get to that same fixed object, you should have counted at least six seconds. Recommended practice for commercial motor vehicles is considered six to eight seconds following distance.
18	Making safe choices	Unfortunately, outside factors can have a negative impact on your decision making. Don't let missing a turn or running late for an appointment upset you and shift your attention from safety. Don't let the temptation to try to beat a traffic light win out over good judgment. Make the safer c h o i c e.



Day	Statement	Response
19	34-hour restart rules	The 34-Hour restart rule states that from July 2013 the need for truckers to take two 1am-5am periods off in a 34-hour restart was suspended in Dec. 2014 for further research. The FMCSA conducted the CMV Restart Survey. In March 2017 results were sent to Congress. Once fully reviewed a final rule will be made. Drivers should continue to utilize the rule form from the FMCSA website:
		60/70 Mile per Hour Limit
		 May not drive after 60/70 hours on duty in 7/8 consecutive days. A driver may restart a 7/8 consecutive day period after taking 34 or more consecutive hours off duty.
		• 34-hour restart no longer requires two periods between 1 am to 5 am.
		Please be sure to review the Hours-of-Service rules periodically as they may change.
		Source
		https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/regulations/hours-service/summary-hours-service- regulations
20	Changing weather	From summer to fall or winter to spring, changing seasons will require being prepared to handle different weather and road conditions. One precautionary step includes ensuring you have supplies to handle winter weather. Check the condition of snow removal tools and equipment, stores of salt, windshield washer fluid and appropriate bad weather gear (including warm clothing, gloves, hats, and windshield scrapers).



Day	Statement	Response
21	Heart disease	Heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) approximately 610,000 people die of heart disease in the United States every year—that's one in every four deaths. To help prevent heart disease:
		Eat a healthy diet
		Maintain a healthy weight
		Exercise regularly
		Do not smoke Limit plackal use
		Limit alcohol use
22	Company Seat Belt Policy	The driver and all occupants are required to wear safety belts when the vehicle is in operation.
23	Severe weather	If you live in an area prone to violent weather, you can find advanced forecasts available through the local media or the National Weather Service, or you can obtain a weather alert device to provide notice of possible or imminent storms.
		Thunderstorms and Lightning: Take shelter, stay indoors, and stay away from doors and windows; avoid using appliances and taking baths or s h o w e r s
		Tornadoes: Listen for authorized tornado watches and warnings. Take cover in a basement or in a first-floor interior room without windows. If you are caught while walking or riding away from a safe shelter, consider taking cover in a ditch or depression.
24	Roadside violation points	Seat belt violations are considered a serious infraction by the FMCSA. A seat belt violation is reflected in the unsafe driving BASIC and can result in fines levied against the motor carrier and driver. But most important is the risk to the driver and other motorists or bystanders. The driver is exposed to serious or fatal injury while others must deal with the fact there is no driver to control the truck.



Day	Statement	Response
25	How IS my driving?	Feedback about driving behavior comes from a variety of sources including motor vehicle reports, accident reports and roadside violations to name a few. However, the driver should be the most influential monitor of his or her own driving. The driver has the most to lose if involved in a crash or for receiving multiple driving citations. And, regulated drivers' roadside violations can be reviewed by prospective employers, which could determine a driver's employability in the future. Only you know how many chances you are willing to take.
26	Responsible to whom?	Drivers are responsible for observing company work rules and motor vehicle laws and knowing the consequences of poor judgment, including those affecting your loved ones.
		 Your employer relies on you completing your assignments as expected to remain a viable business, and the public relies on you not to harm others.
		 Your family may rely on your financial support, emotional support but more importantly, they rely on you being there for future holidays and other life events.
27	Stay informed	Dispatchers and drivers should check for any special situations or condition that could pose a safe driving hazard before a trip begins and for the duration of the trip, such as delays, traffic issues and condition of vehicle or cargo.
28	Sleeper Berth Provisions	Drivers using a sleeper berth must take at least 8 hours in the sleeper berth and may split the sleeper berth time into two periods provided neither is less than 2 hours.
		Please periodically check the FMCSA website for any HOS changes throughout the year.
		Source
		 https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/regulations/hours-service/summary-hours-service-regulations
		 https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/sites/fmcsa.dot.gov/files/docs/brochure- part-395-2006_508CLN.pdf



Day	Statement	Response
29	Healthy habits	by necessity, drivers have long hours of physical inactivity while driving. Seek help in developing an exercise and fitness program to help improve stamina and strength. If you are fit from exercising routinely, you can also reduce stress and improve your mental wellbeing.
30	Vehicle security	 When parking your vehicle consider checking the following the following: Is your engine off? Are your doors locked? ae your security measures in place? Are your keys in hand? Drivers should be trained not to take chances, even if they're only away for a moment.
31	Tornadoes	Listen for authorized tornado watches and warnings. Take cover in a basement or in a first-floor interior room without windows. If you are caught while walking or riding away from a safe shelter, consider taking cover in a ditch or depression.



Day	Statement	Response
1	Click it or Ticket	A driver cited for not wearing a seat belt during a roadside inspection may receive the maximum number of points allowed, and both the driver and the motor carrier may be charged. Every year during holidays, law enforcement agencies join forces day and night, from coast-to-coast, for an enforcement blitz that delivers on the message Click It or Ticket. The mobilization is supported by national and local paid advertising and earned media campaigns aimed at raising awareness before the blitz.
2	Inspect entrance/ exit point	Routinely inspect entrance/exit points prior to beginning a trip. Steps should be in good condition and have appropriate anti-skid materials, and handrails or other supports should be available to help reduce slips and falls by passengers.
3	Quality Rest	Family members play an important role in how much sleep we get. Communicate to your family members what your needs are. Remind them how important it is for you to get adequate sleep so you can stay safe on the road. Sometimes it may mean occasionally missing out on family gatherings, school functions, etc. But it's better than not living through a crash and not being there at all for your family.
4	Passenger behavior	If a passenger's behavior becomes uncontrollable or is under the influence of drugs/alcohol, call a company dispatcher. If necessary, ask the passenger to take another form of transportation.
5	Visually inspect the scene	Visually inspect the scene and take photos that show contributing factors such as road conditions, traffic signals, lane markers, and skid marks. Take pictures from different angles, and, if possible, beginning at 20 steps from the scene and then again at 30, 50, and 100 steps.
6	What does distracted driving mean?	Not focusing on the road ahead and mirrors can lead to being caught unaware of changing conditions or situations in front of and around your vehicle. How many seconds or minutes a day have you driven blindly while distracted? Focusing on an object, person, task, or event not related to driving affects the driver's awareness, decision making and/or performance. Think of the number of things you do like that and then add up the average amount of time you are not focused on a daily basis.



Day	Statement	Response
7	Watch for school busses	Obey all posted highway signs including changing speed limit zones and school zone area information signs. Anticipate that children may be present at other times as well, for example, attending after school activities.
8	Captain of the trip	As a commercial vehicle driver, you are the 'captain of the ship.' By tradition, sea captains are responsible for returning their ships, sailors, and cargo safely to port. You are the captain of the ship and your trip. You have many "crewmembers," from dispatchers to mechanics and emergency personnel patrolling highways. By being prepared and equipped with the skills and knowledge to safely operate your vehicle, you will be ready to navigate your way safely home.
9	Electronic Logging Devices (ELD)	 Who must comply with the electronic logging device (ELD) rule? The ELD applies to most motor carriers and drivers who are currently required to maintain records of duty status (RODS) per Part 395, 49 CFR 395.8(a). The rule applies to commercial buses as well as trucks, and to Canada- and Mexicodomiciled drivers. The ELD rule allows limited exceptions to the ELD mandate, including: Drivers who operate under the short-haul exceptions may continue using timecards; they are not required to keep RODS and will not be required to use ELDs. Drivers who use paper RODS for not more than 8 days out of every 30-day period. Drivers who conduct drive-away-tow-away operations, in which the vehicle being driven is the commodity being delivered. Drivers of vehicles manufactured before 2000. Source https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/sites/fmcsa.dot.gov/files/docs/regulations/hours-service/elds/74541/eld-rule-faqs-september-2018.pdf



Day	Statement	Response
10	Overhead storage and racks	Ensure all stored items in overhead storage and racks are properly secured to prevent falling.
11	Handrails and other supports	Point out handrails and other supports passengers can use when moving around inside the vehicle.
12	Counter measures	Here are some tips to help reduce driving fatigued. Pull off in a safe area and take a brief nap (15 to 20 minutes). Longer naps may result in sleep inertia, leaving you groggy and disoriented, which can be detrimental to driving. Drinking a caffeinated beverage may promote short-term alertness, but it takes about 30 minutes for caffeine to enter the bloodstream. Keep in mind that caffeine won't have much of an effect on people who consume it regularly.
13	Seat belts vs. airbags	Air bags are designed to work with seat belts, not replace them. In fact, if you do not wear your seat belt, you could be thrown into a rapidly opening frontal air bag; a movement of such force could injure or even kill you. See http://www.safercar.gov for more on air bag safety. Source http://www.NHTSA.gov
14	Inability to provide a specimen	The collector will give you the opportunity to consume up to 40 ounces of fluid, distributed reasonably through a period of up to three hours, or until a sufficient urine specimen can be produced, whichever comes first.
15	Improving your odds	During a crash, being buckled up helps keep you safe and secure inside your vehicle, whereas being completely thrown out of a vehicle is almost always deadly. Seat belts are the best defense against impaired, aggressive, and distracteddrivers. Source http://www.NHTSA.gov



Day	Statement	Response
16	Where and how falls occur	Falls occur on ramps, in parking lots, on walking surfaces and in garages, wash bays and fuel area. Changes in elevation such as steps leading into a warehouse or loading ramps leading into a trailer can be the cause of a fall. Uneven surfaces, poor lighting/visibility, unfamiliar location, ice, snow, and rain are other causes, as well as spilled fuels and oils mixed with water and soapy wet floors in restrooms and showers.
17	Being a mentor and a role model	If you exhibit the qualities of a professional commercial vehicle driver, other drivers value your advice and help. To be an effective "coach' be sure to demonstrate these traits: expertise, enthusiasm, clarity, empathy, and respect. Remember to lead by example.
18	Secure parking	Vehicles and their cargo obviously are most at risk to theft or vandalism when they are parked. Remember, freight at rest is freight at risk.
19	Arrive Safely	Once a trip begins, arriving at your destination depends on making safe driving decisions. As the driver, you must make safe driving decisions to arrive safely at your destination.
20	Be aware near schools	Be aware of the likelihood of inexperienced and reckless drivers in and near schools. Youthful drivers may make mistakes in judgment so be sure you are looking out for yourself by looking out for the mistakes of other drivers. Drive defensively.
21	Moving violations	Speeding citations are reflected on your CDL, even those received when not driving a commercial motor vehicle. It could result in loss of driving privileges and job. The US DOT CSA safety measurement system scores drivers as well as motor carriers.
22	Check and Inspect	Check for correct coolant level, inspect defrosting and heating equipment and check wipers and windshield washers to ensure that they are working. Carry spare wiper blades and extra washer fluid. Check tire chains to ensure they are free of broken or missing links and straps. Check exhaust systems for signs of soot marks indicating possible exhaust leakage.



Day	Statement	Response
23	Before backing up, take a walk.	Follow the fundamental rule of safe backing; always follow through and meet your GOAL:
		G et O ut A nd L ook!
24	Crash statistics	Use of, or reach for, an electronic device made the risk of crash or near-crash event 6.7 times as high as non-distracted driving; and Text messaging made the risk of crash or near-crash event 23.2 times as high as non-distracted driving.
25	Medical card	After each US DOT physical examination, be sure your card has all the required entries, the entries are accurate, and the information is legible. To protect the card, consider-sealing it in a plastic cover.
		CDL drivers must now certify their type of driving (e.g., interstate, intrastate, etc.) and submit a current medical examiner's certificate (card) to the state in which they are licensed. Failure to do so can result in cancellation of commercial driving privileges by the state.
26	Driver inattention	Driver inattention (both physical and cognitive) is a leading cause of traffic crashes—responsible for about 80 percent of all collisions—according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The number one source of driver inattention is cell phones, according to a Virginia Tech/NHTSA 100-car study. How many times a day or week do you see others distracted while using cell phones? Name other distractions you notice.
		Source: US DOT Driver Distraction in Commercial Vehicle Operations, Virginia Tech Transportation Institute, September 2009: DriverDistractionStudy.pdf



Day	Statement	Response
27	Top health risks	The top critical health risks to commercial vehicle drivers can include: • Smoking and tobacco use • Obesity (being overweight) • Hypertension (high blood pressure • Poor eating habits, diet, and nutrition • Using alcohol, drugs, and other chemical substances • Lack of physical activity/physical fitness • Psychological stress and mental fitness
28	Rear-end collisions	Maintaining a safe following distance is a best practice to help reduce a rear-end collision. It is historically one of the most common and easily avoidable types of collisions. Do not tailgate. Leave yourself enough space to react.
29	Hours of Service	Hours of Service do not include any time resting in a parked vehicle (also applies to passenger-carrying drivers). In a moving property-carrying CMV, does not include up to two hours in passenger seat immediately before or after eight consecutive hours in sleeper-berth.
30	Exterior inspection	Check tires and lights. Tread depth for steering tires must be 4/32" at minimum and all other wheel positions require a minimum tread depth of 2/32". Be aware that tire pressures may vary considerably in cold or hot weather. Headlights, signal lights and brake and running lights must be operational and also clearly visible. During rain and snow, it may be necessary to occasionally clean the various light lenses to ensure the vehicle is easily visible to other drivers.
31	Never pass school busses on the right	Because state laws vary, it is best to review the laws of the state where you operate. However, a best practice is to never pass a school bus on the right side as this is the side that children exit the bus. In most State's when the bus' lights are flashing yellow and/or red it is illegal. Laws in regard to divided highways also vary from State to State. Expect delays. The opening of schools means an extra half million school busses on the road, in addition to the extra millions of vehicles operated by teachers and students

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