

Brian Sandoval
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July 17, 2013

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Media Advisory

The Nevada Highway Patrol to Partner with Ten Other States to Reduce the Number of Accidents on Interstate 80

The Nevada Highway Patrol will be partnering with Highway Patrol agencies from California, Utah, Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey to provide the motoring public with an "I-80 Challenge" from July 24th – July 31, 2013. State Highway Patrol agencies from all eleven states are challenging the motoring public to do their part in reducing accidents along the 2900-mile stretch of Interstate 80.

In 2011, more than 21,000 passenger vehicle occupants across the nation were killed in traffic crashes. Of those fatalities, 52 percent were **NOT** wearing seat belts at the time of their fatal crashes. Approximately 9,900 people were killed in drunk driving crashes, with more than 3,300 killed in fatal crashes involving a distracted driver, and nearly 10,000 lives were lost in speeding-related crashes.

So far this year 2013 Interstate 80 crash data in Nevada revealed more than 70 crashes (or an average of 5 crashes each day). Statistically, a serious injury or fatal crash occurs every four days on Interstate 80 in Nevada, and 3% of all crashes were speed related.

The Nevada Highway Patrol will be working with media outreach to create public awareness to remind the motoring public that there will be an increase of law enforcement presence throughout the 410 miles of Interstate 80 for each of the eight days during this challenge.

Media ride-a-longs can be scheduled and coordinated by contacting one of the regional public information officers listed below:

Elko: Trooper Jim Stewart at (775)753-1253
Carson City: Trooper B. Stapleton at (775) 434-9224
Reno: Trooper Dave Gibson at (775) 434-9128

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