

## Fact Sheet - Traffic Safety Awareness Month

- 74% of pedestrian deaths occur at night (the hours between dusk and dawn).
- Low-light and low visibility are major contributing factors to pedestrian fatalities.
- Drivers in the United States struck and killed 3,434 people in the first half of 2022 – up 5%, or 168 more deaths, from the same period the year before, according to analysis from the Governors Highway Safety Association.
- Drivers struck and killed an estimated 7,485 people on foot in 2021 – the most pedestrian deaths in a single year in four decades and an average of 20 deaths every day, also according to the Governors Highway Safety Association.
- July 4<sup>th</sup> (Independence Day) and the days surrounding are routinely some of the deadliest days of the year in terms of traffic fatalities of which pedestrian deaths make up nearly 20 percent.
- According to the CDC, a study analyzing the years from 2011-2020 found that one officer per week was killed on our nation's roads (2011-2020 = 50 deaths per year).<sup>1</sup> Most years, motor vehicle-related incidents — including crashes and being struck by moving vehicles while on foot — are the main cause of death for officers.
- According to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, 114 law enforcement officers were struck and killed while out of their vehicles during the 10-year period ending in 2020. To help make it safer for officers and other emergency responders, *Move Over* laws have now been enacted in all 50 states. *Move Over* laws typically require motorists to change lanes and/or slow down when approaching an authorized emergency vehicle stopped alongside the roadway.
- Having a light source, wearing reflective clothing, and taking other precautionary measures will greatly reduce the chance of someone being struck as a pedestrian at night.

Other facts and safety tips can be found at the Pedestrian Safety Institute website [www.pedestriansafetyinstitute.net](http://www.pedestriansafetyinstitute.net).

