Adult Occupant Protection/Vehicle Technology (as of March 10)

Impactful Law Enforcement Initiatives for Increasing Seat Belt Use
Refocusing efforts to bolster seat belt use when traffic enforcement levels are declining is challenging. Learn how a law enforcement agency took the lead in organizing a community coalition that promoted seat belt use, and how another department in a secondary law state implemented an innovative high visibility enforcement initiative to reach non-belt users.

Strategies for a Successful Occupant Protection Program
The national daytime seat belt use rate is currently 90%, but state rates range from the high 60s to the mid-90s. Plus, some states have high unrestrained fatality rates, while it’s considerably lower for others. Learn about proven strategies for improving your state or community’s seat belt usage rate and reducing unrestrained fatalities.

Proven Tactics for Conducting Effective Nighttime Seat Belt Enforcement
Law enforcement’s attention on occupant protection shouldn’t be limited to daytime hours since half of all traffic crashes happen between 6:00pm and 6:00am, and more than 50% of motor vehicle occupants killed during those hours are unrestrained. But what does it take to conduct effective nighttime seat belt enforcement? Review the findings of recently completed nighttime seat belt enforcement programs that include a primer on how to set up, conduct, and evaluate these efforts.

Finding Solutions for Addressing Occupant Protection in Rural Areas
One in five Americans live in a rural area, but they account for more than half of all traffic crash fatalities. Rural residents exhibit lower seat belt use rates than their urban counterparts resulting in a high percentage of unrestrained fatalities. Learn about the latest research on low belt use in rural areas. Hear about two statewide programs targeting low belt use in rural areas and what law enforcement liaisons can do to encourage traffic safety in rural areas.

Automated Vehicle Technologies – Understanding What’s Here Now & Its Impact on Safety
Vehicle technology is changing rapidly making difficult it to keep up with all the new features automakers are adding to their latest models to enhance safety and the driving experience. Explore technologies that are on the road today, how they work and how drivers interact with them; and new research that delves into driver performance and experience using these systems, including important findings from NTSB investigations.

Belts, Speeding & Distraction – How Can Vehicle Technologies Help?
Human error contributes to more than 90% of today’s crashes. Behavioral-focused countermeasures such as public awareness campaigns, strong laws and highly visible enforcement are proven countermeasures for addressing risky behaviors. But what about the vehicle? Learn about vehicle-based technologies that have the potential to counteract human behaviors that contribute to crashes and injuries. Emphasis will be given to examining technologies developed to address several of the biggest contributors to crashes and injuries – failure to buckle up, speeding and distraction.

Driver Distraction, It’s Happening Inside Patrol Vehicles, Too
Today’s patrol vehicles are equipped with an array of technology from multiple radio systems, mobile data terminals, cameras, and license plate readers, to LIDAR, RADAR, personal and agency cell phones, and more. Law enforcement agencies are grappling with how to mitigate driver distractions within patrol vehicles and, at the same time, leverage this technology to maximize officer effectiveness. Learn how law enforcement policies on
officer use of in-vehicle technology are evolving and about training now available in Texas to better prepare officers to use this technology safely.