

Driving With Safety In Mind

Did you know that the most costly Workers' Compensation claims are for motor vehicle accidents.* Here at Fresno County EOC, 18.42% of our Worker Compensation claims were due to vehicle accidents.

You should always use caution at all times while driving a motor vehicle. Utilizing situational awareness is ever so important; always know your surroundings at all times while driving.

We all know that California State law requires all drivers to have a valid CA driver's license, vehicle registration, vehicle insurance, and for the driver and passengers to wear a seat belt.

Here are a few safety tips for ***Driving With Safety In Mind***:

- Be cautious while driving through parking lots. Watch for pedestrians and for other vehicles backing.
- Obey the speed limit, and drive slower when roads are slick.
- Drive defensively by continually watching for hazards.
- When driving through neighborhoods, always be cautious of children darting out in front of your vehicle.
- Expect other drivers to do the unexpected. Allow yourself plenty of room to react (know where your escape routes are).
- Focus on the road and your surroundings at all times. Talking on the cell phone, changing radio stations, or reaching for food can compromise your driving safety.
- When stopped behind another vehicle, make sure you can see the bottom of their back tires. By doing so, this assures that you will have enough room to safely pull out from behind that vehicle in case of an emergency.
- Use the three-second rule (maintain three seconds behind the vehicle in front of you).
- Be aware of road rage from aggressive and impatient drivers. Pay attention to your own state of mind, and keep your emotions under control.
- Never operate a motor vehicle while impaired by alcohol, illegal drugs, prescription drugs, or over-the-counter medications.

* Source: The National Safety Council

When we share the responsibility for safety in the workplace, everyone wins!!