

Comment from Anonymous

Posted by the **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration** on Mar 14, 2022

As a law enforcement officer, I support any effort to strengthen the safety of our roadways.

During the course of my duties, I am constantly battling the complacency I see in drivers as I see excessive speed and distracted driving. I try to remind everyone that driving a car entails moving a several thousand pound metal box down the road at high speeds. I instill that this responsibility should not be taken lightly.

The truth of the matter is all drivers become complacent and treat driving like walking. We do it every day and most of the time nothing bad happens. However, I recently witnessed first hand the extreme dangers complacent driving can cause.

I responded to an auto vs pedestrian accident involving an adult and a child. The driver of the involved vehicle was found to be nearly 5 times the legal alcohol limit. Both the adult and child victim were struck and taken to the hospital in critical condition. The child was flown to a children's hospital and sustained severe brain damage. Both victims are still hospitalized as of the writing of this comment.

The selfishness and complacency of the driver in this case directly contributed to this horrendous outcome. This is a single isolated incident that is seen too often around our country.

My hope is that the guidelines and recommendations established in these documents will lead to better safety systems in future vehicles. While some may say that certain systems are too inconvenient, my response is that safety will always be inconvenient. Convenience breeds complacency and when lives are on the line, we should seek to do more to protect them.