After the death of three officers in motor vehicle collisions, the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) developed three elements of a safe driving program: 1) policies, 2) more training for officers, and 3) daily safety messaging. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) collaborated with the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) on a study evaluating the LVMPD program. They found that the safe driving program significantly reduced collisions and injuries, and saved the LVMPD over $1 million.²

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Number of Collisions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before the program</th>
<th>After the program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,616</td>
<td>1,292</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of Injuries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before the program</th>
<th>After the program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>271</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Collision and Injury Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before the program</th>
<th>After the program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$5.4 million</td>
<td>$4.3 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cost savings totaled $1.1 million.

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¹ Some preventable factors that put officers at risk of a crash: not wearing a seat belt; speeding; distraction; stress
³ Pre-intervention period covers 2007-2009; Post-intervention period covers 2011-2013
WHAT AGENCIES CAN DO TO PREVENT COLLISIONS

Policies
- Implement safe driving policies that require seat belt use, reduce unnecessary speeding (e.g., speed cap, intersection crossing), and reduce distraction (e.g., use of MDT and other in-car electronics).
- Educate officers about safe driving habits and operating their vehicle within policy.
- To reduce fatigue, provide enough off-duty time for officers.

Training
- Increase the frequency of driver training. Consider using free training materials from VALOR and Below 100.
- Model safe driving behaviors that you want your officers to practice (wearing your own seat belt, etc).

Messaging and Other Activities
- During roll call, emphasize the importance of safe driving. Look for other opportunities to incorporate road safety into workplace culture.
- Consider using NIOSH’s free Officer Road Code Toolkit to share messages related to seat belts, speeding, distraction, and stress response.
- Encourage open communication between officers and leaders. Talk about safe driving and acknowledge those who are driving safely.
- Reduce distracted driving by minimizing distractions in the interior of the patrol car.

REMIND AND ENCOURAGE YOUR OFFICERS TO

- Buckle up and arrive alive.
- Think before you speed. Be aware of your driving environment when you respond to a call or engage in a pursuit.
- Make sure that intersections are clear before proceeding.
- Focus on driving. If possible, only use your MDT or other in-car electronics while you’re stopped.
- Control stress by breathing slowly and steadily. Provide back-up with a clear mind.
- Stay well-rested and alert by getting enough sleep.
- Hold your fellow officers accountable. When you see a fellow officer driving too fast for conditions, say something to them.

Visit www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/leo for more law enforcement resources, including a toolkit of safe driving messages.

Get More Information
Find NIOSH products and get answers to workplace safety and health questions:
1-800-CDC/INFO (1-800-232-4636) | TTY: 1-888-232-6348
CDC/NIOSH INFO: cdc.gov/info | cdc.gov/niosh
Monthly NIOSH eNews: cdc.gov/niosh/eNews