Traffic-Related Fatalities Involving Law Enforcement Officers

A Five-year Look at Single-Vehicle Crashes

2015-2019
Single-vehicle Crashes Are Preventable!

- During the period from 2015-2019, there were 151 fatal law enforcement auto crashes. 66 of those were single-vehicle crashes.

- This type of traffic-related death represents 44% of fatal auto crashes.
What Were They Doing When They Crashed?

Circumstances

- Responding to Call/Assist: 34
- Admin run/Patrol: 20
- Attempting Traffic Stop: 7
- Engaged in Pursuit: 3
- Investigative: 2

National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund
Single-vehicle Crashes 2015-2019

• 62% occurred at night
• 28% involved wet or slick road conditions
• 27 of the crashes involved an impact with a tree
• 19 of the crashes involved an overturned vehicle
• 9 of the crashes involved a collision with a utility pole
Single-vehicle Crashes and Seat Belts

• **35** of the 66 officers killed in single-vehicle crashes were not wearing their safety belt.

• The average length of service was **7** years

• The average age was **36**
Single-vehicle crashes by NHTSA Regions

- Region 10: 1
- Region 9: 4
- Region 8: 0
- Region 7: 4
- Region 6: 4
- Region 5: 12
- Region 4: 14
- Region 3: 7
- Region 2: 6
- Region 1: 0
Break Down of Single-vehicle crashes by Agency Type

- Municipal: 29
- Sheriff: 25
- State: 10
- Territorial: 1
- Tribal: 1
Key Take-aways

- Single-vehicle crashes represented 44% of all fatal auto crashes
- 62% of crashes occurred during nighttime hours
- 53% of the officers involved in single-vehicle crashes were NOT wearing their seatbelt.
- Sedans were the most common type of vehicle wrecked
Solutions

- Wear your seat belt
- Drive to conditions
- Avoid distractions
- Avoid excessive speed