# FIRST QUARTER REPORT

The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF) in conjunction with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) collects and analyzes fatal law enforcement crash data to track any emerging trends and to provide timely safety recommendations to the field.

During the First Quarter of 2024, Traffic-related line of duty deaths was significantly higher compared to the same period in 2023. In the first three months of 2023, there were six reported line of duty deaths that involved officers being killed in crashes or struck by vehicles. As of March 31, 2024, the overall number of reported traffic-related line of duty deaths is 14, representing a 133% increase.

Traffic related fatalities were up in every category except motorcycle crashes. In the first quarter of 2023, there was one fatal motorcycle crash and in the same period of 2024 there have been none.

### Fatal Automobile Collisions More Than Doubled in Early 2024!

In comparison with the first quarter of 2023, the first quarter of 2024 saw a dramatic increase in fatal automobile collisions and in single-vehicle crashes. There have been three fatal single-vehicle crashes compared to just one during the same period in 2023.

There have been seven fatal collisions with other vehicles in 2024, compared to three in 2023. Also representing a 133% increase in that category of crash.

## Struck-by Crashes Also Increased Over the Same Period in 2023

The number of struck-by crashes also rose during the first quarter of 2024. During the same period in 2023, there was one fatal struck-by crash compared to 4 in 2024. One of those deaths involved a deputy deploying a tire deflation device to end a pursuit. This represents a 300% increase.

# **Georgia Law Enforcement Suffered Four Deaths in 1st Quarter**

In the first three quarters of 2024, NHTSA Region Four (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and Tennessee) led again with the highest number of law enforcement traffic fatalities. The state of Georgia has had four traffic-related fatalities in 2024, with one of them the result of an officer being struck and killed by a fellow officer during an arrest following a multi-state pursuit.

Some preliminary analysis of the 2024 fatalities has revealed that one of the fatal cases involved a confirmed impaired driver. Two of the cases involved confirmed distracted drivers (Texting). Three of the cases involved incidents surrounding pursuits.

133%
TOTAL
INCREASE
VERSUS 2023



**AUTOMOBILE** 

**1**200%

1<sup>ST</sup> QTR **2023** = **1** 

1<sup>ST</sup> QTR **2024 3** 



STRUCK-BY

**1**300%

1<sup>ST</sup> QTR **2023** = 1

1<sup>ST</sup> QTR **2024 =**4



**MOTORCYCLE** 

**1**100%

1<sup>ST</sup> QTR **=** 1

1<sup>ST</sup> QTR **2024** =

TOTAL

**133%** 

1<sup>ST</sup> QTR

1<sup>ST</sup> QTR **2024** = **14** 

Early indications are that officer error contributed to five of the crashes, as officers crossed the center line colliding head-on with other vehicles, one officer rear ended a stopped vehicle, one drove from a boat ramp into a river, and in one case, an officer turned in front of a semi tractor trailer.

Four of the cases appear to involve violations of that state's "Slow Down and Move Over" law. In one case it has been reported that the officer was not wearing their seatbelt.

In early April, members of the NLEOMF presented this data at the annual Lifesavers Conference held in Denver, Colorado to a large audience of safety advocates and law enforcement representatives.

### **SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS:**



**Watch Your Speed** 



Wear your seat belt



**Slow For and Clear Al Intersections** 





# OFFICIAL LINE-OF-DUTY FALLEN HEROES

RESPECT | HONOR | REMEMBER



**DEPUTY CHRISTINA MUSIL** *E.O.W. 3/29/2024* DeKalb County (IL) Sheriff's Office

Patrol car struck by a commercial vehicle while stopped on the shoulder.



TROOPER FIRST CLASS CHASE WINSTON REDNER E.O.W. 2/20/2024 Georgia State Patrol

Struck and killed while investigating a crash.



CHIEF DEPUTY SHERIFF KEN PROROK E.O.W. 2/2/2024 Moody County (SD) Sheriff's Office

Struck while deploying a tire deflation device to end a pursuit.









