

# NHTSA 2024

# THIRD QUARTER REPORT

The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, 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 Third Quarter of 2024, Traffic-related line of duty deaths continued to significantly surpass those during the same period in 2023.** Through the first nine months of 2023, there were a total of 24 reported line of duty deaths involving officers being killed in crashes or struck by vehicles. As of September 30, 2024, the total number of reported traffic-related line of duty deaths is 39, representing a 62% increase over last year.

Traffic related fatalities are up in every category except motorcycle crashes. Through the first three quarters of 2023, there were two fatal motorcycle crashes and through the same period of 2024 there have also been two fatal motorcycle crashes.

## Fatal Automobile Crashes Increase Through the Third Quarter of 2024!

In comparison with the total number of crashes in the third quarter of 2023, the same period in 2024 has recorded a dramatic increase in fatal automobile collisions and in single-vehicle crashes. There have been four fatal single-vehicle crashes in 2024 compared to three during the same period in 2023.

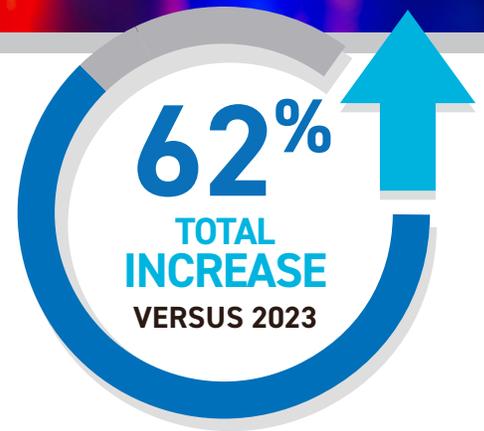
There has been a total of 21 fatal collisions with other vehicles in 2024, compared to 16 during the same period in 2023, representing a 31% increase in fatal vehicle collisions.

## The Number of Struck-by Crash Fatalities Has Doubled in 2024

The number of struck-by crashes through the third quarter of 2024, continues to outpace the same period in 2023. In the first nine months of 2023, there were a total of six officers struck and killed. In the same period in 2024, that number rose to 12. This is a 100% increase from where we were in 2023.

The most common circumstance in these crashes is when an officer is on the scene of an existing crash and is struck by an impaired or inattentive driver, or they were on a traffic stop and struck by a passing car.

During the third quarter of 2024, NHTSA Region Six (Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Mississippi, and Louisiana) passed Region Four (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and Tennessee) in the total number of law enforcement traffic-related fatalities. Region Six has eight and Region Four has seven fatalities. The state of Texas leads with seven fatalities. The state of Georgia has had four traffic-related fatalities in



**AUTOMOBILE**

↑ 31%

3<sup>RD</sup> QTR  
2023 = 16

3<sup>RD</sup> QTR  
2024 = 21



**STRUCK-BY**

↑ 100%

3<sup>RD</sup> QTR  
2023 = 6

3<sup>RD</sup> QTR  
2024 = 12



**MOTORCYCLE**

NO CHANGE

3<sup>RD</sup> QTR  
2023 = 2

3<sup>RD</sup> QTR  
2024 = 2

**TOTAL** ↑ 62%

3<sup>RD</sup> QTR  
2023 = 24

3<sup>RD</sup> QTR  
2024 = 39

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.

The preliminary analysis of the 2024 fatalities has revealed that eight of the fatal cases involved a confirmed impaired driver. Three of the cases involved confirmed distracted drivers (Texting).

Five of the cases involved incidents surrounding pursuits, and 15 of the cases involved a driver who violated that state's "Slow Down and Move Over" law.

Some preliminary facts indicate that in five of the cases the officer contributed to their fatal crash as they crossed the center line colliding head-on with other vehicles, drove into water, or rear ended a stopped vehicle.

In three of the cases it has been confirmed that the officer was not wearing their seat belt.

In early July, members of the NLEOMF presented this data at the annual New York State Association of Chiefs of Police Conference in Buffalo, New York.

## SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS:



**Train annually on vehicle operations.**



**Enforce a mandatory Seat belt policy.**



**Have Below-100 come and train at your agency.**



# OFFICIAL LINE-OF-DUTY FALLEN HEROES

RESPECT | HONOR | REMEMBER



## DEPUTY CAILEE CAMPBELL

*E.O.W. 9/25/2024*

Oswego County (NY) Sheriff's Office

Patrol car collided with another vehicle while responding to call for service.



## OFFICER AUSTIN MACHITAR

*E.O.W. 8/26/2024*

San Diego (CA) Police Department

Killed in collision with fleeing suspect vehicle.



## SERGEANT BILLY RANDOLPH

*E.O.W. 8/12/2024*

Fort Worth (TX) Police Department

Struck while on the scene of an existing crash.

