



The COVID pandemic has also brought us an epidemic of bad driving, nationally and in North Carolina. Traffic fatalities on our roads have hit a high not seen since the early 1970's...1,755 North Carolinians killed. Crashes are down, but deaths are up. This is because of speeds, distractions, reduced seat belt use, and general recklessness on our highways.

There has always been an important concept when it comes to safety: the three "E's" of 1) Engineering 2) Enforcement and 3) Education. All three must be in partnership to create a safe environment for drivers, workers at their jobs, and in the home and community. Every E has its place. When it comes to highway safety, we have safer vehicles and roads, and law enforcement is making stops and arrests. What we lack is serious dedication to driver training and behavior modification for those who are proving that they choose behaviors that have deadly results.

In courts across North Carolina drivers are charged with Reckless Driving to Endanger/Wanton Disregard. That's why we have partnered with our National Safety Council and district courts to introduce the new 12-Hour Remedial Driver Training Course. 12 Hours. One and a half days for drivers with reckless and aggressive driving violations to examine their decision-making and change their driving behavior before they kill themselves, or worse, innocent victims.

The Safety and Health Council of North Carolina is proud to introduce our unique, 12-hour Remedial Driving Training Course this Spring. District Attorney Ben David, of Wilmington, NC, is the first of 43 district attorneys to have approved the course and allowed it to be piloted in North Carolina's 5th Prosecutorial District. The course consists of 8 hours of National Safety Council "Chronic Offender" material as well as 4 hours of customized NC training, including teaching to fellow students' laws and safe driving principles out of the North Carolina DMV Driver Handbook. "This training can make life-saving changes", said DA Ben David, "while offering our courts an additional tool in administering justice for traffic offenders in our crowded courtrooms."

The 12-Hour course will join the Alive at 25, 4-hour, and 8-hour Attitudinal Dynamics of Driving classes as options available for driver training in North Carolina. Courses are available through our network of accredited community colleges in North Carolina.

For more information:

Chip McDonald

President, Safety and Health Council of North Carolina

chipmcd@safetync.org

704-644-4188 direct