

SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
{Insert date}

Media Contact {Insert contact name}
{Insert telephone number and e-mail address}

{YOUR CITY, STATE—DATE} **{Your State Transportation Agency} and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration have announced a major traffic enforcement blitz in {State.}**

The *Ticketing Aggressive Cars and Trucks* (TACT) Program is the first high-visibility traffic enforcement campaign to concentrate solely on passenger vehicles driving aggressively around commercial motor vehicles (CMVs). The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), together with local law enforcement agencies, industry partners, and safety representatives, is working to educate car and truck drivers on the importance of leaving more space when merging, changing lanes, following behind trucks, or passing other motorists when driving.

“The TACT Program serves to crack down on aggressive drivers and highlights why driving around large trucks warrants extra care,” FMCSA Administrator John H. Hill stated. “Trucks need extra time and extra space to change lanes or come to a complete stop. By giving trucks the room they need, we can prevent crashes and save lives. Sharing the road safely is every driver’s responsibility.”

Statistics in recent years for {your state} show approximately {your statistic} percent of all CMV-related fatalities were caused by a non-CMV driver. Beginning {insert start date}, and running until {insert end date}, law enforcement officers will be focusing traffic enforcement efforts in some of {your State’s} most dangerous interstate corridors where CMVs and passenger vehicles historically crash together. Troopers will issue citations to all motorists engaging in unsafe driving behaviors including excessive speeding, improper lane changing, aggressive driving, tailgating, failing to wear a safety belt, and not leaving sufficient space around all vehicles.

The {your State’s transportation agency} is also erecting highway signs in the focused enforcement corridors informing motorists, “Don’t Get a Ticket, Leave More Space.” Tractor trailers from {partner organization(s)} have been wrapped head to toe with the TACT campaign visuals. These trucks will travel the {highways of your enforcement}. The trucks serve as a visual testimony to the traveling public of the trucking industry’s support for this project.

Motorists should remember the following safety tips when driving near a big truck:

- **Stay out of the No-Zone.** No-Zones are actual blind spots where the car “disappears” from the view of the truck driver.
- **Stay visible!** Large trucks need a much longer breaking distance than a car. Don’t cut into a trucks’ space; if this happens it reduces a trucks’ much needed breaking distance and restricts evasive action.
- **Don’t tailgate a truck.** The further you are away from a truck the less likely you will be involved in a collision.
- **Don’t speed.** Obey all speed limits.
- **Allow plenty of room.** Large trucks are almost as wide as your lane of travel. Pacing too close behind one prevents you from reacting to changing traffic conditions and patterns.
- **Buckle-up.** Wearing your safety belt is the single most important thing you can do to save your life in a crash.

Protect yourself and your passengers by learning how to share the road safely with large vehicles. For more information about the {Insert State name} TACT Program, visit the Web site at {Insert Web address}.