BUCKLED OR ATA COMP FUND

MYTH: TOO GOOD TO BUCKLE



- Some drivers believe if they are "good" and "safe", they don't need to wear safety belts because they will never experience a collision. But what about the other, "not-so-good" drivers out there? Over 90% of accidents are caused by human error, because people make mistakes.
- Other factors contributing to a crash can include mechanical failures, tire blowouts... and even that fickle Mother Nature and her unpredictable weather.
- There is a difference between a GOOD driver and a PROFESSIONAL driver. The pros know that buckling up isn't just the law... it's the safest decision you'll ever make in a vehicle.

(2023) Driver was not buckled while driving. The truck's steer tire ran off the road and shredded, causing the truck to go down the side of the road and roll. Passenger was asleep in the bunk, also not harnessed. Driver sustained injuries to shoulders, neck, and back; passenger injuries included left leg, neck, and right ankle.



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MYTH: SEATBELTS WILL TRAP YOU



- Fires/submersions happen in **less than half of 1%** of injury-producing collisions.
- Safety belts improve your chances of "escaping" by keeping you conscious and in control.
- There are **seatbelt cutters** and a **glass breaker tool** that can assist with a quick escape.
- Don't believe that it's better to be thrown clear of the wreckage in the event of a crash. *Ejections rarely end with "good" results*.

(2022) According to dash cam footage, driver was eating while driving and choked on food, lost control of the truck, which crossed into oncoming traffic. Driver was unrestrained and was ejected from the truck into the ditch alongside the interstate. Driver was pronounced deceased at the scene.



MYTH: NICE AND SLOW



- Accidents can occur, even in the shortest and slowest instances.
- Most crashes occur within 25 miles from home or terminal. 80% of injuries or fatalities occur under 40 MPH.
- A collision at 30 MPH without a seatbelt restraint means an object (person)
 continues to move forward at 30 MPH with nothing to stop it (them) but a
 steering wheel and/or windshield.

(2024) Driver was leaving the company terminal and merged into oncoming traffic. Driver came upon stopped vehicle in the middle of the road and was unable to stop in time. While attempting to swerve to miss the car, the truck hit it and jackknifed. Passenger was in sleeper berth unharnessed and slammed head against side of truck, resulting in a fatality.

