

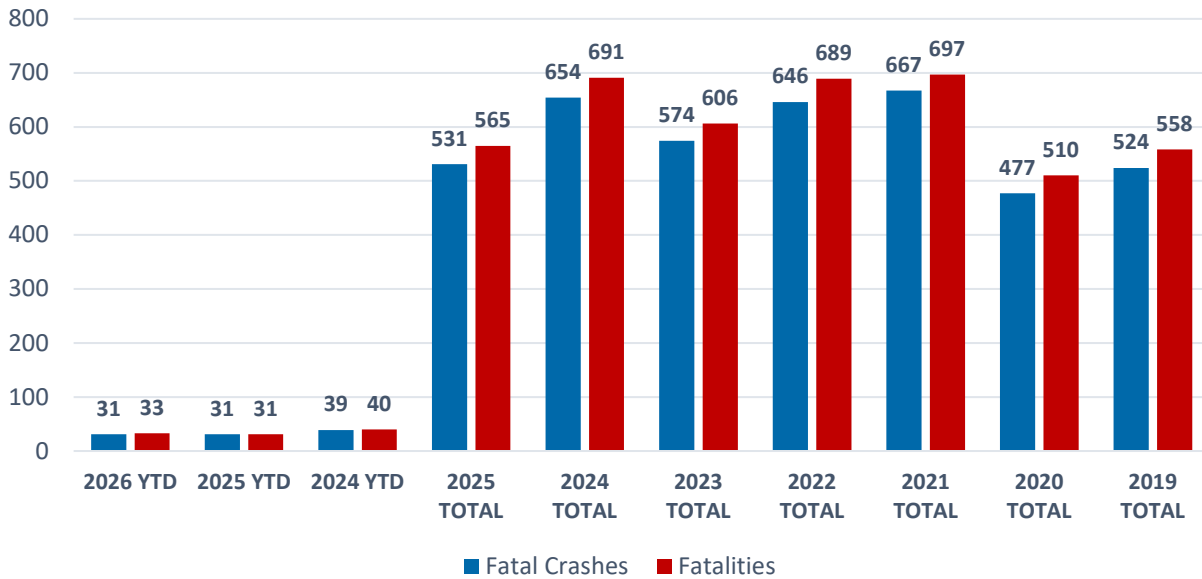


NEW JERSEY

# Traffic Safety Bulletin

January 27, 2026

## Year to Date — Statewide Fatal Crash Statistics



| FATAL CRASHES |     |
|---------------|-----|
| 2026          | 31  |
| 2025          | 31  |
| 2024          | 39  |
| 2025 TOTALS   | 531 |
| 2024          | 654 |
| 2023          | 574 |
| 2022          | 646 |
| 2021          | 667 |
| 2020          | 477 |

| FATALITIES  |     |
|-------------|-----|
| 2026        | 33  |
| 2025        | 31  |
| 2024        | 40  |
| 2025 TOTALS | 565 |
| 2024        | 691 |
| 2023        | 606 |
| 2022        | 689 |
| 2021        | 697 |
| 2020        | 510 |

- YTD Percentage Change 2025 – 2026: 6.5% (+2)
- TOTAL Percentage Change 2024 – 2025: -22.5% (-9)

Fatal crash data can be viewed as a barometer or measuring stick of the state's overall roadway health. Sustained traffic safety engagement and enforcement decrease the physical, emotional, and monetary victimization of the motoring public due to violent traffic collisions. Please join us in SAVING LIVES and REDUCING INJURIES from traffic crashes.

[www.NJSafeRoads.com](http://www.NJSafeRoads.com)



— Moving Toward Zero Fatalities —





## New Jersey E-Bike Law (S.4834 / A.6235)

Effective (Signed): January 19, 2026

**Grace Period Ends: July 19, 2026**

**Full Enforcement Begins: July 20, 2026**

### **WHY THIS MATTERS**

E-bike crashes are increasing statewide. This new law creates uniform standards for accountability, rider safety, and shared roadway responsibility.

### **WHO IS COVERED**

Class 1 & 2 e-bikes (up to 20 mph)

Class 3 e-bikes (up to 28 mph)

Certain motorized bicycles

### **NEW REQUIREMENTS (By July 19, 2026)**

#### **LICENSE**

Valid NJ driver's license OR Motorized bicycle license

#### **REGISTRATION**

All e-bikes must be registered with NJ MVC

#### **INSURANCE**

Liability insurance required

#### **AGE**

Under 15: Not permitted

15+: Must be licensed

### **TRANSITION ENFORCEMENT**

Education first, warnings, focus on unsafe behaviors

### **FULL ENFORCEMENT**

\$50 fine, summons, insurance violations

### **MVC INCENTIVE**

**All fees waived until Jan 19, 2027**

**GOAL: EDUCATE → COMPLY → PREVENT INJURY**



## **E-Bike Training for Teens- Overview and Options Wednesday, February 4th, from 7:00-7:45pm**

**Registration Required & Free to the Public**

**Facilitated by Paul Mickiewicz, NJBWC Program Manager  
and Certified Cycling Instructor Questions? Contact [Paul.Mick@NJBWC.org](mailto:Paul.Mick@NJBWC.org)**

**Get a feel for the online training classroom and learn why it's so important for all family members to understand the unique challenges and benefits of getting around by e-bike. We will also share some options for hands on e-bike training and updates on e-bike legislation progress.**

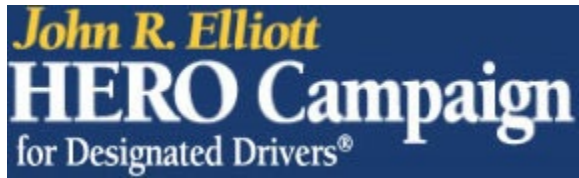
**[Click or Scan to REGISTER](#)**



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### **John's Law Anniversary**

This April marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of “John’s Law,” one of New Jersey’s most significant impaired-driving statutes and a cornerstone of our state’s commitment to traffic safety. John’s Law was enacted in 2001 following the tragic death of Ensign John R. Elliott, who was killed by an intoxicated driver while returning home from the United States Naval Academy. The driver who struck John had been arrested for DWI earlier that same night, released, and allowed to regain access to his vehicle. Determined to prevent other families from experiencing similar loss, John’s parents, Bill and Muriel Elliott, worked tirelessly with lawmakers and law enforcement leaders to strengthen New Jersey’s impaired-driving laws.

### **Key Provision of John’s Law**

Under John’s Law, when a motorist is arrested for Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) in New Jersey, the vehicle they were operating must be impounded for a minimum of 12 hours. This requirement ensures that an impaired driver cannot immediately return to the road and create further danger. The law also requires documentation when a third party takes custody of the vehicle, reinforcing accountability and giving officers clear authority to safeguard the public after an arrest.

### **Why It Still Matters**

Impaired driving remains a serious threat on New Jersey roadways. Alcohol-involved crashes continue to account for approximately 20–30 percent of traffic fatalities statewide each year. John’s Law has proven to be a critical tool in preventing repeat offenses and stopping intoxicated drivers from re-entering traffic after arrest.

### **The HERO Campaign for Designated Drivers**

In addition to John’s Law, the Elliott family established the HERO Campaign for Designated Drivers, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing drunk-driving tragedies by promoting the use of safe, sober designated drivers.

The HERO Campaign works closely with law enforcement, schools, military organizations, and community partners to build a culture where having a designated driver is a routine and responsible choice.

**More information and resources are available at: [www.herocampaign.org](http://www.herocampaign.org)**



### Super Bowl Buzzed Driving Prevention Material

We're 30 days away from kickoff! This timely safety messaging can help boost traffic safety communication efforts. Use this themed material to encourage people to plan for a safe, sober ride home before the big game. Many assets are available in English and Spanish.

#### [Get Material Now](#)

On behalf of the NHTSA team, thanks for your proactive support in saving lives on our America's roads.

## 2026 NHTSA Communications Calendar



Scroll through the calendar and click any date for campaign material. Printable PDFs and events calendar are available [here](#).



# Goal:Zero

Campaign

-Zero:Deaths-

-Zero:Injuries-

-Zero:Crashes-

## Goal Zero Statewide Rollout

Monday February 23, 2026 - from 3-7pm.

*In memory of Tim & Bridgete O'Donnell*



*Tim and his 5-year-old daughter Bridget were killed by an intoxicated driver in a crash that took place on the NJ Turnpike on Monday Feb 22, 2016. Pam O'Donnell, the wife and mother of the victims, has become a powerhouse in the traffic safety community. Her work with the Catch You Later Foundation has been instrumental in putting a human face on the consequences of impaired and distracted driving in New Jersey.*

[catchyoulater.org](http://catchyoulater.org)

[GOAL ZERO REPORTING LINK](#)



**Follow the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, and visit [NJSafeRoads.com](http://NJSafeRoads.com).**

**Traffic Safety Marketing: Communication Resources**

**For States, Partner Organizations, and Highway Safety Professionals**

**DDEF- Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund**

Funds are secured upon conviction

Refusal statute is still a problem: Use 39:4-50.4A

Can be used to purchase 9510 breath testing device

Overtime rate for enforcement is not capped at \$70

Over \$5 million in unclaimed/unused funds

Contact Steve Slimowicz at [hts.ddef@njoag.gov](mailto:hts.ddef@njoag.gov) (609-917-8530)



Contact: William “Will” Yarzab, Street Smart NJ Coordinator

Tel: 973.877.8120 Cell: 908.229.4018 [Wyarzab@nitpa.org](mailto:Wyarzab@nitpa.org)



The IACP is now accepting workshop proposals for the [Impaired Driving and Traffic Safety \(IDTS\) Conference](#) taking place August 21-23, 2026, in Anaheim, California.



## Tuning Fork Calibration



There will be a change with the 2026 tuning fork testing due to a scheduling conflict with NJ Weights and Measures. Testing will take place during March for departments “A” through “M,” and departments “N” through “Z” in April. If your needs preclude your following the schedule, then you can avail yourself of either date.

Attached is a copy of the Weights and Measures tuning fork rules and a copy of the tuning fork application. Costs are \$10 per fork tested. It is advised to have your purchase order attached to the application so W&M can process it at the time of testing.

**Inspection and Test Radar Turning Forks Application**



### The 2026 Summit Hub is Now Live!

We are excited to announce that the online **Summit Hub for the 2026 NJ Bike & Walk Summit is now available!** Visit the 2026 Summit Hub for more information about the event, including registration and sponsorship opportunities!

**When:** Saturday, March 7, 2026

**Where:** The Conference Center at the Crowne Plaza Princeton, 900 Scudders Mill Road Plainsboro, NJ 08536. *(Please use 870 Scudders Mill Road the main and closest entrance to the event).*

[Visit the 2026 Summit Hub](#)



## Latest News & Articles of Interest

[Click on Links](#)

[N.J. traffic deaths drop 15% in 2025 from 30-year high in previous year](#)

[CHP, DMV launch program to fast-track license suspensions for extreme speeding](#)

[Traffic Safety and the Law: Navigating the Legal Boundaries of the Fastest Electric Bikes on Public Roads](#)

[IACP Calls on White House to Convene Joint Federal–State–Local Discussion on Public Safety](#)

[Mothers Against Drunk Driving Announces Three New National Board Members to Help Lead Lifesaving Mission](#)

[The City Where Traffic Fatalities Vanished](#)

[Toms River Man Killed As Drunk Driver Ran Red Light On Route 37, Prosecutor Says](#)

[New Jersey passes a sweeping e-bike licensing law, and the move redefines who can legally ride as \\$50 fines loom for unlicensed riders](#)

[Waymo's School Bus Situation Just Got Way Worse](#)

[Essential winter driving tips as a major storm approaches](#)

[Why New Jersey Has New Comprehensive E-Bike Regulations](#)

[Deadly crash rates rise when teen driver only has teen passengers in car, AAA report says](#)

[Ford recalls around 119,000 vehicles over fire risk: NHTSA](#)

[NJ woman charged in hit-and-run that killed pedestrian and her dog](#)

[Gov. Murphy pardons son of NJ powerbroker who was convicted in deadly hit-and-run](#)

[Urgent Warning: Two More Deaths from Substandard, Dangerous Chinese Air Bag Inflators](#)



**RUTGERS-NEW BRUNSWICK**

**Center for Advanced Infrastructure  
and Transportation**

School of Engineering

**1. Data-Driven Countermeasures for Traffic Safety**

**February 10-11, 2026 8a-4p Rutgers**

*(Mine data, submit a 1-year grant to DHTS and employ countermeasures to address a traffic safety concern)*

[NJDHTS - Data-Driven Countermeasures for Traffic Safety \(In-person\) - Rutgers CAIT](#)

**2. Traffic Enforcement & Engagement Acuity**

**February 20, 2026 8a-4p Ocean County**

*(Why we do it, traffic laws, professional conduct, traffic stop procedures, documentation and court room testimony)*

[Traffic Enforcement & Engagement Acuity \(In-Person\) - Rutgers CAIT](#)

**3. Traffic Enforcement & Engagement Acuity**

**February 27, 2026 8a-4p Morris County**

*(Why we do it, traffic laws, professional conduct, traffic stop procedures, documentation and court room testimony)*

[Traffic Enforcement & Engagement Acuity \(In-Person\) - Rutgers CAIT](#)

**4. Traffic Incident Management**

**March 05, 2026 8a-1p Virtual**

*(Crash scene safety)*

[NJLTAP - Traffic Incident Management \(Webinar\) - Rutgers CAIT](#)

**5. Traffic Enforcement & Engagement Acuity**

**March 13, 2026 8a-4p Middlesex County**

*(Why we do it, traffic laws, professional conduct, traffic stop procedures, documentation and court room testimony)*

[Traffic Enforcement & Engagement Acuity \(In-Person\) - Rutgers CAIT](#)

**6. NJTR-1 Refresher**

**March 27, 2026 8a-1p Virtual**

*(Completing the Crash Report Accurately)*

[NJDHTS - NJTR-1 Crash Form Refresher \(Webinar\) - Rutgers CAIT](#)

**7. NJTR-1 Refresher**

**March 31, 2026 8a-1p Virtual**

*(Completing the Crash Report Accurately)*

[NJDHTS - NJTR-1 Crash Form Refresher \(Webinar\) - Rutgers CAIT](#)



## **Fundamentals of At-Scene Crash Investigation**

**A new one-week class is replacing the two-week Basic Crash Investigation Class**

The pilot class is scheduled to be held at the  
Morris County Police Academy

February 23 to 27, 2026

For the course syllabus and to register, go to

<https://form.jotform.com/242975471866169>

## **Technical Crash Investigation and Vehicle Dynamics Analysis**

**A new two-week class is replacing the Advanced Crash Investigation Class**

The pilot class is scheduled to be held at the  
Somerset County Emergency Services Training Academy

March 2 to 13, 2026

For the course syllabus and to register, go to

<https://form.jotform.com/242976277850167>

## **Technical Crash Investigation and Vehicle Dynamics Analysis Class**

April 6 to 17, 2026

Burlington County ESTC

Registration link <https://form.jotform.com/260055641047148>

14th

Registration opens January



This one-day LASER Speed Enforcement Operator's Course (LIDAR) provides law enforcement officers with both classroom instruction and hands-on outdoor practical exercises.

These courses are sponsored by Laser Technology Inc. (LTI) and is offered at no cost to attending officers.

**Scheduled Classes** (all classes start at 9:00 am)

February 12, 2026 (Thursday) - Stafford Twp (Ocean County)

March 17, 2026 (Tuesday) - Bridgewater Twp (Somerset County)

[Click here for more details and to register for one of these classes.](#)

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If you have any questions or issues with enrollment, contact Rich Maxwell at [richard.maxwell@kean.edu](mailto:richard.maxwell@kean.edu) or by cell at (732) 567-7431.



## Save the Date

### **NJ Police Traffic Officers Association Meeting**

Date: February 4, 2026 @ 1000

Location: AAA Hamilton, NJ

### **NJSACOP Monthly Briefing**

Date: February 5, 2026 @ 1000

Location: Double Tree 700 Hope Road  
Tinton Falls, NJ

If you have any questions, or suggestions for future posts, please do not hesitate to contact the NJSACOP Traffic Safety Team @ [mmorris@njsacop.org](mailto:mmorris@njsacop.org) & [wparenti@njsacop.org](mailto:wparenti@njsacop.org). Our Statewide Traffic Safety Coalition is constantly looking for new ideas, images, and traffic safety success stories to publicize. Thank you in advance for your efforts in making our roadways safe. **#SafeRoadsNJ**

### **Chief Michael J. Morris, Ret.**

Law Enforcement Liaison South: NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety / NJSACOP

FBI NA #235

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### **Chief William G. Parenti, Ret.**

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908-472-6392