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Texas Motor Transportation Association Reminds Motorists to Be Safe During Memorial Day Weekend

AUSTIN – As Texans prepare to travel for Memorial Day, Texas Motor Transportation Association (TMTA) is helping make roads safer. As TMTA joins all Texans in honoring U.S. men and women who have lost their lives in military service, the association wants to ensure drivers arrive at their destination safely. TMTA reminds the motoring public that from driveway to highway, safety requires patience and dedication. To help drivers prepare, TMTA offers a list of best practices and advice to motorists on how to navigate through highway traffic.

Tips include:

Perform a Pre-Trip Inspection – Check your tire pressure, wipers and fluids. Simple maintenance can prevent many of the problems that strand motorists on the side of the road.

Pay Attention – Looking away for even two seconds doubles the chances of an accident.

Allow a Safety Cushion – Look 1/4 mile ahead for a safe path. Leave yourself an out.

Slow Down – Chances of a crash nearly triple when driving faster than surrounding traffic.

Large Trucks Have Blindspots – If you can't see the truck driver in his/her mirrors, then the truck driver can't see you.

Buckle Up – It is the law; safety belts save lives.

Abide by Traffic Rules – Follow traffic signs and signals.

Be Careful Backing Up – One in four preventable collisions involve backing up. Be sure to look before backing up; walk around your car prior to departure.

Do Not Cut in Front of Large Trucks – Remember that trucks are heavier and take longer to make a complete stop, avoid cutting quickly in front of them.

“During holidays, we tend to see a significant increase of Texans on the road traveling,” said TMTA President John D. Esparza. “Additional cars, on our already crowded highways, mean safe driving habits become truly essential. We want to make sure all Texans make it to their destination this Memorial Day weekend. To ensure that, and for the safety and benefit of every motorist, we ask drivers to slow down and observe the rules of our highways.”

TMTA is a trade organization dedicated to advocating sound public policies, providing excellence in education and training, and promoting a safe, dependable and cost-effective motor transportation system to better serve the people of Texas. TMTA is committed to educating professional truck drivers and the motoring public on best practices and safety issues on Texas' highways and byways. Greater education on sharing the road with large trucks, increased traffic enforcement for all vehicles that operate unsafely around large trucks, strict enforcement of safety belt laws are a few of the topics TMTA supports. For more information, please visit: www.tmta.com