



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

Region 6
Louisiana, Mississippi
New Mexico, Oklahoma
Texas, Indian Nations

819 Taylor Street Room 8A38
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-6177

July 1, 2008

Dear Pastor:

Each and every death caused by traffic crashes impacts family, friends, and the community with sadness and loss. From 2001 to 2005, of the 16,180 African American killed in passenger vehicle traffic crashes, **64 percent were not using their safety belts.** Historically, African American male teenagers travel fewer vehicle miles than their white counterparts, but they are nearly twice as likely to die in a motor vehicle crash.

The enclosed National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Region 6 Safety Clergy Kit for July through September is designed to provide you with materials to help stop preventable tragedies in your community. We appreciate your continued support in spreading traffic safety messages, helping educate families about making good decisions as both drivers and passengers.

In this quarter, the messages highlight impaired driving and summer traffic safety concerns. Driving distractions, teen driving issues, and back to school safety topics are also included to share with your congregation.

The Clergy Kit contains:

- Church Bulletin Safety Announcements for July through September 2008
- Pastor Notes for a Traffic Safety Sermon Message
- Weekly Safety Reminders
- Sunday School Activity

If you need additional information or other assistance to help promote traffic safety within your church, please contact Ministers Against Crime Regional Diversity Outreach Liaison Luther Perry at 817-978-0661, or visit www.coremessages.com for downloadable versions.

Sincerely,

Georgia S. Chakiris
Regional Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration