

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, highway crash responders conduct valuable and often life-saving operations on our state's roadsides at all hours of the day and night and in any type of weather; and

WHEREAS, highway crashes and blocking incidents in Washington cause congestion, secondary crashes and impede commuter and business traffic; and

WHEREAS, these incidents and additional challenges on freeways necessitate a coordinated multi-agency response, referred to in the public safety and transportation professions as Traffic Incident Management, which helps clear crashes and blocked roads while also keeping goods and the traveling public moving throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, crash responders and Traffic Incident Management stakeholders include: law enforcement, fire and rescue, emergency medical services, transportation agencies (state, county, local), towing and recovery, emergency communications, emergency managers, hazardous materials responders, medical examiners and/or coroners, elected and appointed officials, traffic media, freight haulers and the traveling public; and

WHEREAS, Washington state crash responders have trained 3,341 Traffic Incident Management responders in person, another 2,093 virtually and has conducted more than 300 instructor training sessions as of July 1, 2024; and

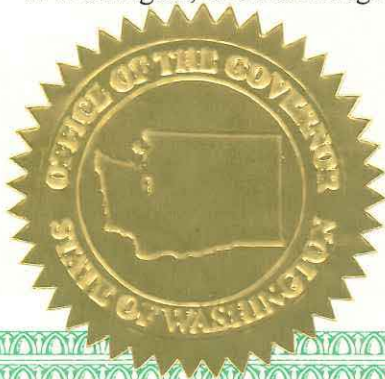
WHEREAS, all drivers have a duty to drive safely, and take every precaution to reduce the risk of secondary crashes, including following the state's, "Move Over, Slow Down," law that requires motorists to move over one lane, if possible, when approaching roadside workers with flashing lights and, if unable to move over, to drive 10 mph below the posted speed when passing emergency crews; and

WHEREAS, the safety of all, including the traveling public and response personnel at incident scenes, is of paramount concern;

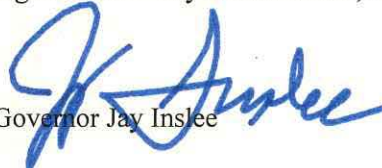
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim November 18-22, 2024, as

Crash Responder Safety Week

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance.



Signed this 6th day of November, 2024


Governor Jay Inslee