



## **AGGRESSIVE DRIVING WAVE 3 TALKING POINTS**

### **General Information:**

- Wave Three of the 2011 Pennsylvania Aggressive Driving Enforcement and Education Project (PAADEEP) runs from Nov. 1 – 14.
- The aggressive driving theme for this Wave is *Maintain a Safe Driving Distance*.
- Approximately **320 municipal police** departments and the Pennsylvania State Police will participate in this enforcement effort.
- Any statistics used will be according to the new NHTSA definition, with *at least two* aggressive-driving behaviors included in the crash.

### **2011 Aggressive Driving Enforcement Strategies:**

- Law enforcement will be on the lookout for aggressive driving behaviors, including:
  - Speeding
  - Following too closely (tailgating)
  - Improper Passing
  - Red Light Running
- Law enforcement agencies will concentrate efforts on roadways that are known to have a high number of aggressive-driving crashes.
- Special attention will be paid to motorcyclists and heavy truck operators as aggressive drivers.
- New drivers throughout the state will be educated about the consequences of aggressive driving through the *Survival 101* and *Sixteen Minutes* school programs.

### **Talking Points for Maintain a Safe Driving Distance:**

- Approximately 60 percent of all 2010 traffic fatalities in Pennsylvania involved some sort of aggressive driving.
- Following too closely, or tailgating, is a common aggressive driving behavior. This decreases your reaction time and increases the likelihood of a crash.



- When drivers increase the distance between them and the car in front of them, they increase their safety.
- A four-second following distance, will allow you to steer or brake to avoid a hazard safely on the highway, if the pavement is dry. To determine your following distance, watch the rear bumper of the vehicle ahead of you. When the bumper passes a road marking or a roadside object like a telephone pole, start counting how many seconds it takes you to reach the same spot on the road. If you pass the marking or object in less than four seconds, you are following too closely. Increase your following distance in inclement weather.
- There were 5,755 aggressive-driving crashes in 2010, an increase from 4,763 in 2009. Fatalities in those crashes also increased, with 168 in 2010 and 130 in 2009.