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**The State of Connecticut and The Greater Hartford Traffic Incident Management
Coalition Promote Crash Responder Safety Week**
November 8 – 14, 2021
“Slow Down - Move Over - Be Safe”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hartford, CT, November 5, 2021 – Ned Lamont, Honorable Governor of the State of Connecticut, officially proclaims the week of November 8-14, 2021, as Crash Responder Safety Week (CRSW), formerly known as Traffic Incident Response Awareness Week.

The awareness campaign is being held across the country to raise awareness of the importance to **SLOW DOWN, MOVE OVER** for any vehicle with flashing lights on the highway.

It’s vital to remember that personnel responding to a crash provide a critical public service and are called to duty at all hours of the day and night, in adverse weather conditions, and in dangerous roadside environments. Their safety and the safety of those involved are paramount.

Sadly, too many crash responders have been struck and either injured or killed while responding to or working at a crash scene.

CRASH RESPONDERS PUT THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE EVERY DAY

Reported Crashes in Connecticut, **January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2020.**
(Data from the Connecticut Crash Data Repository (CTCDR) as of **October 13, 2021**)

	Injury of any type (Serious, Minor, Possible)	Fatal (Kill)	Property Damage Only	Total
2018	27,129	285	86,769	114,183
2019	27,180	237	85,426	112,843
2020	21,257	301	62,182	83,740
TOTAL	75,566	823	234,377	310,766

[The Greater Hartford Traffic Incident Management Coalition \(GHTC\)](#) encourages everyone to support those who put their life on the line 24/7/365 days a year. There is a unified team that works closely together to make sure the right people show up to the scene to help move cars and trucks out of the roadways and save lives. Firefighters, EMS/EMT, law enforcement, towing and recovery professionals, safety patrols, maintenance crews, commercial vehicle squads, environmental and hazmat crews, traffic management centers, 911 dispatchers along with the media work together to respond quickly and safely.

While all 50 states have “*Slow Down, Move Over*” laws, recent surveys show that currently fewer than 30 percent of Americans know these laws, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Millions of motorists are passing near or through a crash scene, and it is important to know what to do when approaching or being involved in one.

REMEMBER

Slow Down-Move Over – In Connecticut, [the Move Over law](#) requires motorists to slow down and move over for emergency and maintenance vehicles and disabled motorists if safe to do so.

Move It (Steer It-Clear It) – In Connecticut, [the Move It law](#) requires motorists involved in a traffic incident to safely move their cars out of the roadway if the vehicles are drivable and there are no injuries.

Please visit [our website](#) for more information on the Greater Hartford Traffic Incident Management Coalition efforts.

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The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) is a voluntary Council of Governments formed to initiate and implement regional programs of benefit to the towns and the region. It is guided by the chief elected officials of our 38 Metro Hartford municipalities. The mayors, first select person, and town council chairperson who make up our governing Policy Board recognize the future of our individual members is tied to the future of our region. Our members have collaborated for more than 50 years on a wide range of projects to benefit our towns individually and the region. CRCOG serves the Capitol Region and all our municipalities by:

- Helping members improve governmental efficiency and save tax dollars through shared services and other direct service initiatives;
- Promoting efficient transportation systems, responsible land use and preservation of land, and natural resources and effective economic development;
- Strengthening the Capitol City of Hartford as the core of a strong region, and as our economic, social, and cultural center;
- Advocating for the region, and its towns with the State and Federal governments;
- Strengthening our regional community by helping coordinate regional agencies and programs; and
- Assisting local governments and citizens in articulating, advocating, and implementing their regional community's vision, needs, and values of their regional community.