

Top 10 High Frequency Crash Corridors in Duval County

1. Atlantic Blvd. & Kernan Blvd.
 2. Beach Blvd. & University Blvd.
 3. J. Turner Butler Blvd. & SR 9A
 4. Atlantic Blvd. & Southside Blvd.
 5. Beach Blvd. & Southside Blvd.
 6. Beach Blvd. & Kernan Blvd.
 7. I 295 & San Jose Blvd.
 8. Beach Blvd. & San Pablo Rd.
 9. Blanding Blvd. & Youngerman Circle
 10. Argyle Forest Blvd. & Blanding Blvd.
- Does not include crashes worked by FHP or non-reported incidents.

Traffic Fatality Statistics

From Jan.1, 2007 through Dec.31, 2007 there were 174 traffic fatalities on our city streets.

- 95 Deaths occurred in motor vehicles other than motorcycles
- 32 Motorcyclists have been killed
- 37 Pedestrians were killed by moving vehicles
- 10 Fatalities involved bicycle riders
- 49 Drivers/Passengers did not use seatbelts

-Statistics provided by JSO
Traffic Homicide Unit
1/2008

Top Ten Driving Tips

I. OBEY POSTED SPEED LIMITS

- Speeding fines are expensive and can add points on your driver's license and raise your insurance rates.
- Increased speed during a crash creates more damage, which increases your chance of serious or fatal injury.

(Continued on next panel)

Top Ten Driving Tips (Cont.)

2. UTILIZE SAFETY BELTS

- Florida Law requires that all front seat occupants must utilize safety restraints. All children between the ages of 4 and 17 must be secured in a safety restraint. Children from birth to 3 must be secured in a child restraint seat.
- According to studies by N.H.T.S.A. (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration), safety belt usage can cut fatalities and injuries between 40-55%, comparing belted to unbelted occupants. Safety belts really do save lives!

3. DON'T DRINK & DRIVE

- Currently, nearly one-third of all traffic fatalities in Florida involve impaired drivers.
- DUI in Florida: A person with a .08 Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) is considered under the influence. However, you can be arrested and convicted with a lower limit.
- Florida law prohibits the possession of open containers of alcoholic beverages in a motor vehicle.
- Anyone under the age of 21 with a BAC of .02 or above will lose his/her driving privileges.

4. FOLLOW AT A SAFE DISTANCE

- Keep at least a 2-second following distance between your vehicle and the one in front of you. In less-than-ideal conditions, increase this distance.

5. OBEY TRAFFIC SIGNALS

- Every day, thousands of motorists run red lights in Florida, recklessly endangering their lives and the lives of other motorists and pedestrians.
- Red light running is often a result of aggressive driving and the time saved—Avg. of 47 seconds— is not worth the potential cost in human lives.

6. YIELD THE RIGHT-OF-WAY

- Failing to yield causes thousands of crashes, resulting in serious and fatal injuries.
- (Continued on next panel)*

Top Ten Driving Tips (Cont.)

- Failing to yield includes those who turn left in front of approaching traffic, emerging from a private drive or parking lot, and pulling out in front of other traffic from a stop sign.

7. PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

- Pedestrians are subject to traffic control signals at intersections.
- Pedestrians must walk on sidewalks, if provided, or walk facing traffic where there are no sidewalks.
- Pedestrians must utilize crosswalks where available and cross at intersections.
- No pedestrian shall suddenly leave the curb and step into the path of a vehicle.

8. MOVE OVER LAW

- Use caution when approaching an emergency vehicle sitting on the side of the road with emergency lights activated.
- On two-lane roadways, you must slow down to at least 20 mph below the posted speed limit.
- On multi-lane roadways, you must move over to the adjacent lane when safe to do so, or slow down as you approach the area.

9. DON'T DRIVE DISTRACTED

- Maintain focus on your driving and avoid being distracted so you can expect the unexpected.
- Avoid eating, reading and grooming in your vehicle while driving.
- Keep cell phone calls to a minimum, allow voicemail to answer a call.
- Pull off the road in a safe area to handle your call and don't engage in stressful or emotional conversations while driving.

10. DON'T HANG OUT IN THE LEFT LANE

- Keep right unless you are passing another vehicle or preparing to make a left turn.



The JSO is a triple crown accredited law enforcement agency.

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Guidelines for Traffic Stop Safety and Driving Tips





Dear Citizen:
Traffic stops are when most citizens have their only contact with police officers.

Traffic stops can create situations of potential danger for the police officers and for the citizen.

Therefore, traffic stop procedures are very strict, ensuring our officers' safety and informing citizens of what to expect when stopped by an officer. Whether the officer is off-duty or on-duty, driving a marked or unmarked car, motorcycle or alternative vehicle, the citizen's rights must be respected and the officer protected and allowed to do his/her job safely.

This brochure is designed to make you aware of the proper procedures that will be followed during a traffic stop, including a traffic stop by an officer in an unmarked car.

I take the safety and security of our citizens and officers very seriously and value the partnership we have built through years of trustworthy service to the community.

No one likes getting a traffic citation. Drive carefully and obey the rules and tips provided in this brochure to help ensure the safety of you, your passengers, others on the road and pedestrians.

Sincerely,

John H. Rutherford, Sheriff
Duval County

JSO Traffic Stop Procedures

- During a traffic stop the officer will have a badge **AND** a JSO identification card available to display upon request.
- Unmarked traffic cars are equipped with lights and sirens that may be used during a traffic stop.
- Officers in unmarked cars will allow motorists to proceed to a populated or well lighted location (as long as the motorist is not actively fleeing).
- The officer will inform dispatch, by radio, that he/she is in an unmarked vehicle and is following the driver to an alternate location.
- Citizens can call 911 or 630-0500 to verify if it is a JSO officer conducting the traffic stop.

Florida Traffic Fines *

1-5 miles overWarning
6-9 miles over.....\$104
10-14 miles over.....\$179
15-19 miles over.....\$204
20-29 miles over.....\$229
30 & above.....Court
Red Light Violation....\$204
Move Over Act.....\$139
Pedestrian Violation.....\$60

For more Florida traffic statutes please visit our website coj.net/sheriff and click on the "Traffic News" button

**Fines are doubled in construction zones and in school zones when lights are flashing*
**Effective July 1, 2008 Subject to change by Legislature*

Citizen Procedures

In most instances JSO uses marked patrol cars for traffic enforcement. However, JSO does utilize unmarked cars for law enforcement. Plain clothed detectives and off duty officers do on occasion conduct traffic stops when they observe violations.

In addition, we recently added several unmarked vehicles to our fleet, and use those cars for traffic enforcement. The procedures below provide basic guidelines to follow in the event that a citizen is stopped by a police officer in plain clothes or in an unmarked police car.

You may use these procedures if you feel uncomfortable about a traffic stop.

1. During a traffic stop, stay inside the vehicle and keep doors locked. Only lower the window enough to exchange information.
2. Ask the officer for proof of identification that includes a JSO ID **AND** badge.
3. If you are uncomfortable stopping at night, you may motion the officer to follow you to a well lighted location by turning on your hazard lights, turning on your inside dome light, and driving at a reduced speed to the nearest well lit area.
4. If you are still uncertain, call 911 or 904-630-0500 to confirm that the traffic stop is legitimate.

What to do if...

What If I am Being Pulled Over by an Unmarked Car?"

If you are being stopped by a police officer in an unmarked car and do not feel comfortable pulling over, at that time, you may proceed to a well populated and lighted location.

(see # 3)
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What to do if...(Cont.)

"What do I do after I have pulled over?"

After stopping, unless directed by the officer to get out of your car, please wait in your car with the inside dome light on for the officer to approach. **Keep your hands high on the steering wheel and do not make any sudden movements or reach into your glove compartment.** The officer should explain why you were pulled over and ask for your driver's license, registration and proof of insurance. If you have a weapon in the car this is the time to calmly tell the officer that you have one and where it is located. **Please do not reach for it!** The officer will explain why you were stopped. This is not the time to contest the stop or argue. If a citation is issued, you will have the opportunity to dispute it in court, if you choose.

"But I am afraid of stopping at night."

Being stopped at night - particularly along a dark stretch of road - can heighten the tension for both a motorist and the officer. Officers do not object to drivers proceeding to the nearest well-lit area. Simply acknowledge the officer by turning on your hazard flashers, turning on your inside dome light, and driving at a reduced speed to the nearest well lit location.

Jacksonville Sheriff's Office
501 E. Bay St.
Jacksonville, FL 32202
Phone: 904-630-0500

JSO Substations

Zone 1(Gateway)... 924-5361
Zone 2 (Regency)... 726-5100
Zone 3 (Powers Avenue) ...828-5463
Zone 4 (Cedar Hills)... 573-3165
Zone 5 (Superior Street)... 384-8028
Zone 6 (Highlands)... 696-4335