



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION **NEWS RELEASE**

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FOR RELEASE: Upon Receipt

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News Advisory

APRIL 19-23, 2010 IS WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK IN CONNECTICUT

Press Conference is Friday, April 16, at 10:30 a.m. at DOT

Governor M. Jodi Rell has proclaimed April 19-23, 2010 Work Zone Safety Awareness Week in Connecticut. "New England weather doesn't allow us the opportunity to do road construction all year long. Therefore, during the months from April through November we must share the road with our contractors and maintenance workers who are working to improve and maintain Connecticut's transportation infrastructure."

Motorists must take extra care when traveling through work zones, and those include our incident and emergency response scenes. High speeds and distractions are dangerous at any time, but when cones, barrels, construction workers and equipment are added to the mix, the potential for catastrophe becomes even greater.

Work zones may be inconvenient to the motorist but they are a necessity. Without them, bridges couldn't be built, roads couldn't be maintained, utility companies couldn't provide their services, and emergency responders couldn't clear crashes from roads.

Many people are invested in the health and safety of workers and motorists and they all strive to educate, train and enforce the laws and regulations related to work zones. New standards, laws, and regulations are continually being enacted to allow workers and motorists to share the road safely.

Connecticut, like other states and organizations, promotes work zone awareness not only during the **National Work Zone Safety Awareness Week** which is being held this year from **April 19th – 23rd**, but throughout the year. This year's national theme is "Work Zones Need Your Undivided Attention."

Lieutenant Governor Mike Fedele, representatives from the Connecticut Departments of Transportation, Motor Vehicles and Public Safety; U.S. Department of Labor (OSHA), the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association, and special guest Ms. Teresa LaBarbera from Channel 3 News Pinpoint Traffic will be at the 11th annual Work Zone Safety Awareness Week at the Connecticut DOT Headquarters. The event will be attended by state highway construction and maintenance workers, private contractors, public utility companies,

construction industry associations, and state and local police to help increase the awareness and importance of safe driving by the motoring public. The Connecticut Work Zone Safety Press Conference will be held:

April 16, 2010

10:30 a.m.

Department of Transportation
Conference Room A&B
2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06131

GUEST SPEAKERS

Opening Remarks

Mr. Thomas Harley

Chief Engineer

Department of Transportation

Honorable Michael Fedele

Lieutenant Governor

State of Connecticut

Colonel Thomas Davoren

Commissioner

Department of Public Safety

Mr. Robert Ward

Commissioner

Department of Motor Vehicles

Ms. Amy Jackson-Grove

Division Administrator

FHWA

Chief Murray Pendleton

Town of Waterford

Connecticut Police Chiefs Association

Robert Kowalski

Area Director

Department of Labor

Occupational Health & Safety

Ms. Teresa LaBarbera

Pinpoint Traffic Reporter

WFSB Channel 3 News