



Video: *Virginia Transportation Commissioner David Ekern at lectern*

Audio: It is a health crisis, and like any other health crisis, it is individual action that will work to help cure the disease that we have.

And consequently, as a part of this event, I want to make sure that we recognize that each of us, as individual citizens, have an important role to play in reducing the fatalities and crashes that are occurring on the system.

Each of us, every day, needs to think about, as we get in our cars to go about our daily business, that we approach that the same way that we would approach getting on an airliner and getting ready to fly across the country.

Make sure the vehicle is in good condition. Use your seat belts. Obey the rules. Obey the speed limits and share the road with those that are traveling with you on those same byways.

Same rules that the airline industry uses. And think about how much we appreciate that, as we keep airplane separation and we keep every landing and take off safe. That's what it's all about, and very frankly, that's the message that we have as we work together with you as citizens to deal with protecting the lives of each and every one of us every day.