



“Your Connection for Workplace Safety”
Phone: 920-208-7520

We're about service, commitment, results, and accountability!

Weekly Safety Tip

Life Is All About Choices!®

April 3, 2017

SCI Safety News: April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month

Source: <http://www.enddd.org>

By: Joel Feldman

Date: March 27, 2017



Before July 17, 2009 I had never heard of Distracted Driving Awareness Month. For that matter, even though I am a lawyer who has represented hundreds of families in distracted driving cases over the years, I regularly drove distracted. What changed on July 17, 2009? My 21-year old daughter Casey was killed by a distracted driver. Because of Casey's death I stopped driving distracted and have devoted the bulk of my professional time working to reduce distracted driving through our organization EndDD.org

When I began working on traffic safety issues in 2011 there were far too many traffic tragedies and far too many families suffering, but fatalities were steadily decreasing each year. As a result, through April's Distracted Driving Awareness Month's activities each year many of us hoped that perhaps, we were contributing to that decline. Sadly, that downward trend in fatalities abruptly reversed in 2015 which saw the largest annual increase in highway deaths on a percentage basis in about 50 years.

Preliminary estimates for 2016 indicate deaths increased yet again and, that for the first time in about 10 years, more than 40,000 of us died on our roads.

SCI Safety Slogan



James Lehrke-SCI

So I am approaching April differently than in past years. If in the past I believed I was in some ways partly responsible for *decreasing* fatalities, don't I now need to accept some of the responsibility for *increasing* fatalities? What more can be done and could I do to save lives? When asked why I publicly talk about Casey's death I tell people that the magnitude of her loss is lessened if, by telling her story, lives are saved, especially young lives. As a result I pledge to work even harder this year to save lives.

This April will be the busiest April yet for EndDD.org. We will officially release an on-line an [interactive educational distracted driving](#) quiz next week.

We have partnered with the American Association for Justice (AAJ) to have its trial lawyer members continue to speak at high schools across the country, all without cost to the schools. We have spoken with about 50,000 students since September 2016 and have talks scheduled in April, May and June and will reach thousands more students before school ends in June.

We will be releasing an animation that illustrates that while looking away from the road to text or tweet at 55 mph we travel more than the length of a football field. The animation will be used in presentations to teens and adults across the country.

We have partnered with Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD), and my law firm Anapol Weiss, in sponsoring a [national video and meme contest, "Friends don't let friends drive distracted."](#) We know that teens are creative and can be very influential in keeping their friends safe so we eagerly look forward to seeing all of the entries and announcing our winners in April.

We are also working on an on-line survey that can be administered before and after programs so we can measure the effectiveness of our programs and make improvements.

We hope and pray that all of us will reflect on the way we drive and make changes if necessary so that we will lose less of us on the roads in 2017 than in 2016.



SCI OSHA: Quickcards: Prevent Amputations

Source: <http://www.osha.gov>

Amputations are widespread and involve a variety of activities and equipment. Each year, thousands of workers lose fingers, hands, feet, and other body parts—mostly through compression, crushing, or by getting them caught between or struck by objects. Most amputations involve fingertips.

High-Risk Activities

Amputations occur most often when workers operate unguarded or inadequately safeguarded:

- Mechanical power presses • Power press brakes • Powered and non-powered conveyors • Printing presses • Roll-forming and roll-bending machines
- Food slicers • Meat grinders • Band saws • Drill presses • Milling machines • Shears, grinders, and slitters • Table and portable saws.

Recognize and avoid amputation hazards through guarding, safe work practices, employee training, administrative controls and operating in a safe manner.



Quick Tips for Healthy Living

Have you had your wellness exam?

While eating healthy and exercising regularly are extremely important in maintaining a healthy lifestyle, an annual physical exam is also vital. The good news is that most insurance companies already cover wellness exams, so don't worry about the added expense!

Getting an annual physical exam is a smart, simple way to take care of your health. The benefits of getting a complete physical examination every year include:

- Increasing your chances of finding serious problems early so that your doctor can treat them right away
- Getting a chance to ask your primary care physician any questions you may have, and discussing anything that's worrying you
- Creating a valuable history of key health measurements, like your blood pressure and weight
- Discussing any over-the-counter (OTC) prescription medications you're taking to make sure they're working well for you

How often should you get a physical exam?

Most primary care physicians recommend patients come in for an adult comprehensive physical exam at least once per year. Even if you feel healthy, it's a good idea to continue regular medical exams since they give you the chance to ask your doctor any questions you may have. They also help your doctor detect any underlying issues at their earliest possible stage - issues you may not have detected on your own.

The best way to prevent amputations caused by stationary or portable machinery is with machine safeguarding:

- **Guards** provide physical barriers to hazardous areas. They should be secure and strong, and workers should not be able to bypass, remove, or tamper with them. Guards should not obstruct the operator's view or prevent employees from working.
- **Devices** help prevent contact with points of operation and may replace or supplement guards. Devices can interrupt the normal cycle of the machine when the operator's hands are at the point of operation.

Embrace Reality Support Group

SCI believes in helping people! Embrace Reality support group meets every month for one hour. This group is for individuals with a heavy heart struggling with life. We also encourage those who can mentor or listen to also join us. Everything we talk about stays with the group. Confidentiality is a must!

April 4th
Safety Connections Office
2108 Kohler Memorial Dr. Suite 220
Sheboygan WI
5:00 pm to 6:00 pm



What do you think?
Send us an email at:
j1connections@aol.com
See our bold new look

In Loving Memory...
Jessica, Kristin and Nick

