



Help Protect Those Who Protect You



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## Headquarters - NH State Police

33 Hazen Drive  
Concord, NH 03305

Tel: 603 223-8500

Fax: 603 271-1153



# PRESS RELEASE

INCIDENT: First Responders Winter Driving Press Conference

DATE: 02/05/15

LOCATION: State Wide

INVESTIGATOR:

AUTHORITY: Lt. Matthew Shapiro

### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

With hundreds of vehicles having crashed on New Hampshire roadways so far this winter, first responders would like to remind drivers of the hazards associated with driving in dangerous conditions. Although many drivers have adjusted their driving appropriately for such challenging conditions, a significant number have not; resulting in property damage and injury. In the majority of these cases, driving too fast for the road conditions was the causal factor. In an effort to inform the public and provide a safer environment for first responders, statewide electronic message boards have been used to warn drivers of impending winter weather driving conditions both before and during storms. This includes forecasted conditions one commute in advance; (NH DOT) downgraded advisory speed limits; and real time road hazards and crash locations. These efforts have undoubtedly reduced crashes, property damage, and injuries on our roadways. Despite that, first responders are still being hit at an alarming rate. This winter the New Hampshire State Police alone have had 19 cruisers struck by other motorists, an increase of 300% over previous years with a significant portion of the winter still ahead. At today's press conference all first responders stand together and ask that you follow these simple but vital tips:

- Drive at a speed appropriate for road conditions. Don't jeopardize your life or the lives of others.
- When approaching first responders reduce speed and give a wide berth, without endangering oncoming traffic, to public safety personnel, any persons in the roadway, and stationary vehicles displaying blue, red, or amber emergency or warning lights.

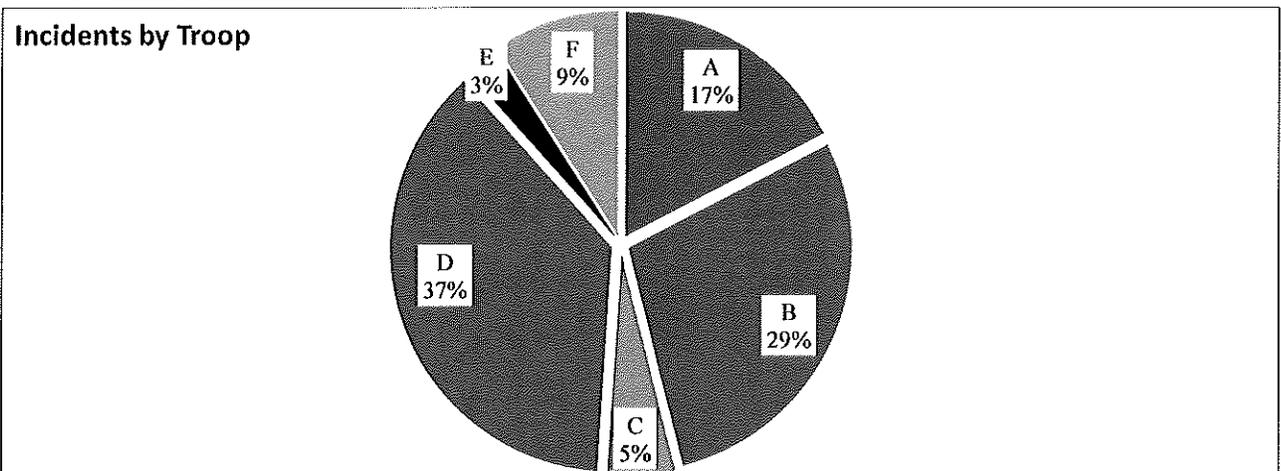
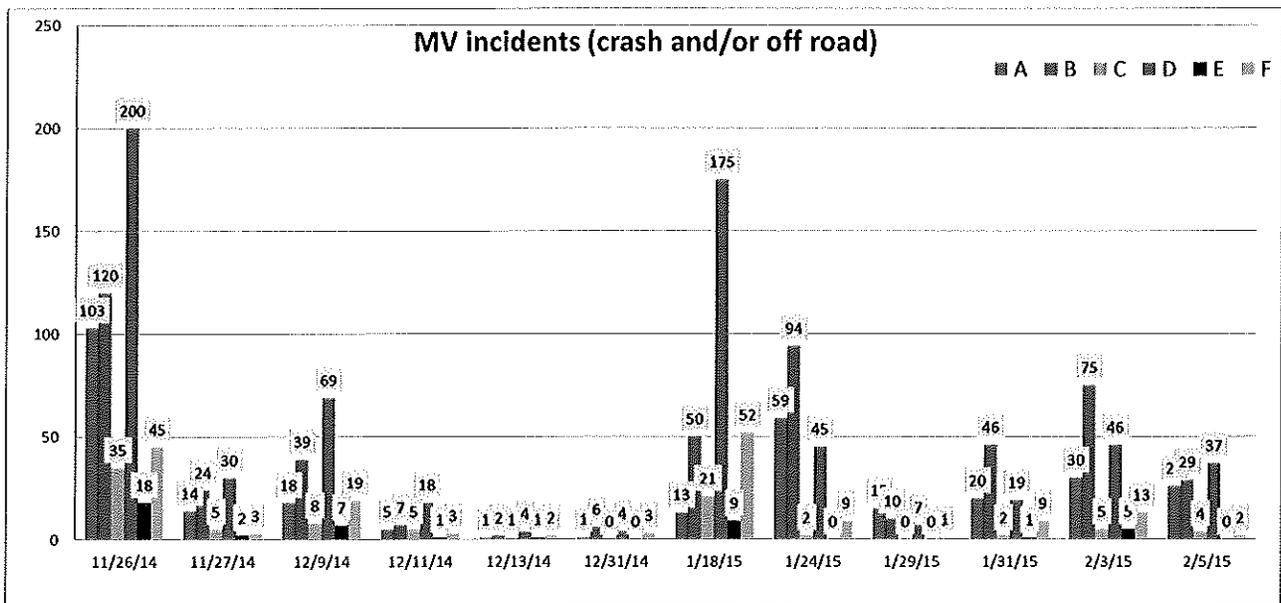
Ensure safe travel for all on New Hampshire's roadways. Please help protect those who protect you!

Date:	Town:	Street/Rd	Cause	Injuries	Damage Cost	Totaled?
11/26/14	Warner	1 mile north of interstate 89 sb	unreasonable speed for conditions	no injuries	\$2,374.90	no
11/26/14	Alton	2.5 miles south of Rt285	unreasonable speed for conditions	no injuries	\$6,207.90	no
11/26/14	Dover	intersection of 16s and exit 9 on ramp	unreasonable speed for conditions	no injuries	\$325.50	no
11/26/14	Springfield	500 ft no of 189 NB and Springfield rest area	unreasonable speed for conditions	trooper injured	\$1,500.00	no
11/26/14	Hopkinton	1 mile south of 189N and Rt127	unreasonable speed for conditions	no injuries	\$2,000.00	no
11/26/14	Manchester	93s and exit 8 off ramp	unreasonable speed for conditions	civilian injured	\$1,019.00	no
11/26/14	Manchester	93s and exit 8 off ramp	unreasonable speed for conditions			
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11/26/14	Sunapee	1.1 miles south of 189S	unreasonable speed for conditions			
12/09/14	Dorchester	1551 NH Rt 118	unsafe backing	trooper injured		yes
12/09/14	Newington	270 ft north of Rte 16S/Portsmouth Town Line	unreasonable speed for conditions	no injuries	\$2,091.80	no
12/11/14	Northumberland	Intersection of 3n and Deanbrook Dr	failing to yield the right of way	trooper injured		yes
12/13/14	Stewartstown	8 Granite Road	unsafe backing	no injuries		yes
12/13/14	Colebrook	intersection of south main st and Rt 3	failing to yield the right of way	no injuries	\$926.80	no
12/31/14	New Hampton	Rt 93N mile marker 73.4	distracted driver	no injuries	\$350.00	no
01/18/15	Warner	189S mile marker 16.4	unreasonable speed for conditions	trooper injured		yes
01/24/15	Sanbornton	1.8 miles north of 193N, Tilton townline	unreasonable speed for conditions	no injuries	\$3,181.94	no
01/29/15	Raymond	Rt 101 eastbound mile marker 110	unreasonable speed for conditions	no injuries		no
01/31/15	Bedford	100 ft east on ramp to the RW Drive	unreasonable speed for conditions	injured trooper		yes
02/03/15	Concord	193N, exit 14 off ramp	unreasonable speed for conditions	no injuries		no
02/03/15	Londonderry	intersection of Rt 102 & exit 4 nb ramp	unreasonable speed for conditions	no injuries		no
02/05/15	Hooksett	193 northbound mile marker 26.8	unreasonable speed for conditions	no injuries		no

\$19,977.84  
repairs cost  
to replace  
the 5 totaled  
\$185,000 at \$37000 each

# Total Motor Vehicle Incidents involving a cruiser (Crash and/or Off Road)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	Total by Day	Total by Troop
11/26/14	103	120	35	200	18	45	521	A 305
11/27/14	14	24	5	30	2	3	78	B 502
12/9/14	18	39	8	69	7	19	160	C 88
12/11/14	5	7	5	18	1	3	39	D 654
12/13/14	1	2	1	4	1	2	11	E 44
12/31/14	1	6	0	4	0	3	14	F 161
1/18/15	13	50	21	175	9	52	320	
1/24/15	59	94	2	45	0	9	209	
1/29/15	15	10	0	7	0	1	33	
1/31/15	20	46	2	19	1	9	97	
2/3/15	30	75	5	46	5	13	174	
2/5/15	26	29	4	37	0	2	98	
<b>Total by Troop</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>1754</b>	



# State of New Hampshire

## State Trooper Coverage

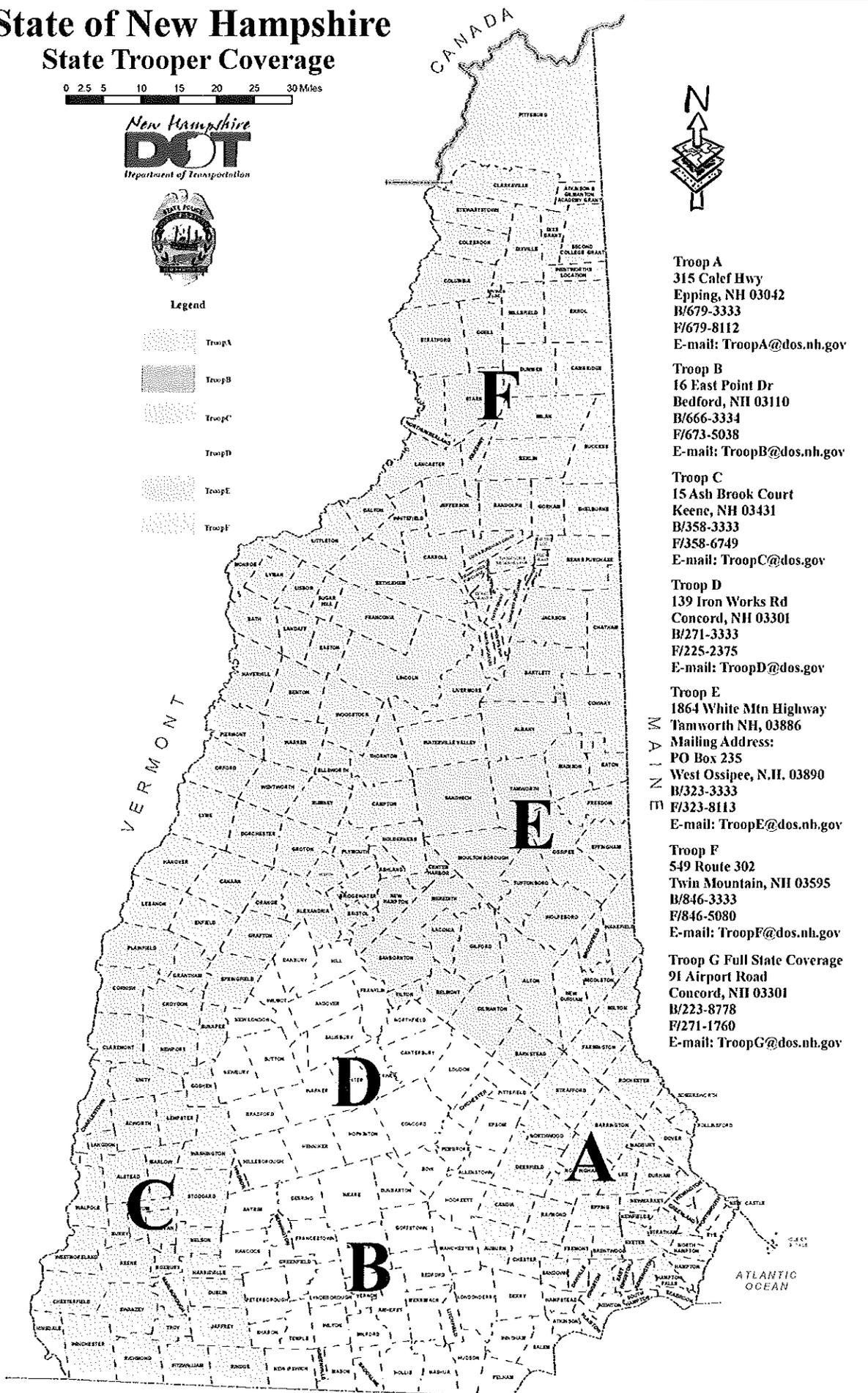
0 2.5 5 10 15 20 25 30 Miles

New Hampshire  
**DOT**  
Department of Transportation



**Legend**

- Troop A
- Troop B
- Troop C
- Troop D
- Troop E
- Troop F



**Troop A**  
315 Calef Hwy  
Epping, NH 03042  
B/679-3333  
F/679-8112  
E-mail: TroopA@dos.nh.gov

**Troop B**  
16 East Point Dr  
Bedford, NH 03110  
B/666-3334  
F/673-5038  
E-mail: TroopB@dos.nh.gov

**Troop C**  
15 Ash Brook Court  
Keene, NH 03431  
B/358-3333  
F/358-6749  
E-mail: TroopC@dos.gov

**Troop D**  
139 Iron Works Rd  
Concord, NH 03301  
B/271-3333  
F/225-2375  
E-mail: TroopD@dos.gov

**Troop E**  
1864 White Mtn Highway  
Tamworth, NH, 03886  
Mailing Address:  
PO Box 235  
West Ossipee, N.H. 03890  
B/323-3333  
F/323-8113  
E-mail: TroopE@dos.nh.gov

**Troop F**  
549 Route 302  
Twin Mountain, NH 03595  
B/846-3333  
F/846-5080  
E-mail: TroopF@dos.nh.gov

**Troop G Full State Coverage**  
91 Airport Road  
Concord, NH 03301  
B/223-8778  
F/271-1760  
E-mail: TroopG@dos.nh.gov

TITLE XXI  
MOTOR VEHICLES

CHAPTER 265  
RULES OF THE ROAD

Speed Limitations

Section 265:60

**265:60 Basic Rule and Maximum Limits. –**

I. No person shall drive a vehicle on a way at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions and having regard to the actual and potential hazards then existing. In every event speed shall be so controlled as may be necessary to avoid colliding with any person, vehicle, or other conveyance on or entering the way in compliance with legal requirements and the duty of all persons to use due care.

II. Where no hazard exists that requires lower speed for compliance with RSA 265:60, I, the speed of any vehicle not in excess of the limit specified in this section or established as hereinafter authorized shall be prima facie lawful, but any speed in excess of the limit specified in this section or established as hereinafter authorized shall be prima facie evidence that the speed is not reasonable or prudent and that it is unlawful:

(a) In a posted school zone, at a speed of 10 miles per hour below the usual posted limit from 45 minutes prior to each school opening until each school opening and from each school closing until 45 minutes after each school closing.

(b) 30 miles per hour in any business or urban residence district as defined in RSA 259:118;

(c) 35 miles per hour in any rural residence district as defined in RSA 259:93, and on any class V highway outside the compact part of any city or town as defined in RSA 229:5, IV;

(d) 55 miles per hour in other locations, except as provided in (e);

(e) 65 miles an hour on the interstate system, the central New Hampshire turnpike and the eastern New Hampshire turnpike in locations where said highways are 4-lane divided highways or other divided highways of 4 or more lanes, except that the speed limit on the portion of I-93 from mile marker 45 to the Vermont border shall be 70 miles per hour.

(f) On a portion of a highway where officers or employees of the agency having jurisdiction of the same, or any contractor of the agency or their employees, are at work on the roadway or so close thereto as to be endangered by passing traffic, at a speed of 10 miles per hour below the usual posted limit, but in no case greater than 45 miles per hour. The speed shall be displayed on signs as required by RSA 265:6-a.

(g) For a vehicle equipped with a transponder, 25 miles per hour through a toll booth or gate that is equipped with a transponder reader for automated toll collection except for an open road tolling lane and except that at toll booths staffed by toll collectors drivers whose vehicles are not equipped for automated tolling shall come to a full stop at the toll booth so that the attendant may collect the toll.

(h) In the toll collection area of an open road tolling lane, at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent for the conditions and actual and potential hazards existing at the time or greater than a per se maximum speed of 65 miles per hour, whichever is less.

III. The limits specified in subparagraphs II(e) and II(g) shall be the maximum lawful speed and no person shall drive a vehicle on said ways at a speed in excess of such maximum limit. The prima facie speed limits set forth in this section may be altered as authorized in RSA 265:62.

IV. The driver of every vehicle shall, consistent with requirements of paragraph I, drive at an appropriate reduced speed when approaching and crossing an intersection or railway grade crossing, when approaching and going around a curve, when approaching a hillcrest, when traveling upon any narrow or winding roadway, and when special hazard exists with respect to pedestrians or other traffic by reason of weather or highway conditions.

V. The fines for violation of subparagraphs II(a)-(d) shall be as follows:

Miles per hour above the limit specified:

1-10 \$50

11-15 75

16-20 100

21-25 200

26+ Must appear

(Minimum \$350)

VI. The fines for violations of subparagraph II(e) shall be as follows:

Miles above the 65 mph limit:

1-5 \$65

6-10 100

11-15 150

16-20 250

21-25 350

26+ Must appear

# **TITLE XXI MOTOR VEHICLES**

## **CHAPTER 265 RULES OF THE ROAD**

### **Pedestrians' Rights and Duties**

#### **Section 265:37-a**

**265:37-a Motorist Duties When Approaching Highway Emergencies.** – When in or approaching an incident involving a fire, collision, disaster, or other emergency resulting in partial or complete blockage of a highway, or a location where a police officer has made a traffic stop, every driver other than the driver of an emergency response vehicle, shall:

- I. Maintain a reduced speed.
- II. Obey the directions of any authorized person directing traffic and of all applicable emergency signals and traffic control devices.
- III. Vacate as soon as possible any lane wholly or partially blocked.
- IV. Give a wide berth, without endangering oncoming traffic, to public safety personnel, any persons in the roadway, and stationary vehicles displaying blue, red, or amber emergency or warning lights.

**Source.** 2004, 193:3. 2008, 146:1, eff. Aug. 5, 2008.