

December 16, 2024

President-Elect Donald Trump
The Office of Donald J. Trump
P.O. Box 11063
Palm Beach, FL 33480

Dear President-Elect Trump,

As leaders in traffic safety advocacy, we urge you to prioritize the appointment of a proven safety leader who will be a bold and dynamic Administrator to head the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). This experience is vital at a time when our nation faces a highway safety crisis of historic heights.

Nearly 41,000 lives were lost on U.S. roadways and approximately 2.4 million people were injured in traffic crashes in 2023. The toll of preventable crashes includes an annual economic cost of \$340 billion. These staggering figures underscore the urgent need for national, comprehensive, and strategic action. Factors such as speeding, substance impaired and distracted driving, deteriorating infrastructure, deadly road design, and increasing pedestrian and cyclist fatalities demand an immediate and unified response. A strong safety leader at NHTSA will drive decisive action to significantly reduce roadway fatalities and injuries through behavioral strategies and regulatory measures.

Under your leadership, there is a unique opportunity to address these challenges and make highway safety a cornerstone of national transportation policy. A committed and forward-thinking NHTSA Administrator can:

- **Drive Change:** Advocate for data-driven solutions and advance cutting-edge technologies to confront emerging safety challenges.
- **Strengthen Partnerships:** Collaborate with victims and survivors, states, automakers, safety advocates, and communities to implement transformative safety initiatives.
- **Innovate:** Establish comprehensive vehicle safety standards and ensure the safe integration of automated driving system technologies.
- **Inspire a Safety Culture:** Foster public awareness and shared responsibility to make road safety a priority for all.

NHTSA has been without a Senate-confirmed administrator for much of the past six years. By appointing a proven safety leader with the expertise and vision to address critical safety issues, your administration can deliver meaningful change and save countless lives. Such a move will demonstrate your commitment to the safety and well-being of all who travel our nation's roadways.

We stand ready to assist your administration in advancing traffic safety initiatives and collaborating on strategies that will create a safer future for all who travel on U.S. roads. Together, we can reduce roadway fatalities and ensure that no family suffers the loss of a loved one to a preventable crash.

Thank you for addressing this critical issue. Your leadership in this area stands to shape the trajectory of highway safety for years to come.

Sincerely,



CC: Skip Elliott,
Secretary-Designate The Honorable Sean Duffy