**Mississippi Division, *Our Roads Our Safety***

**Template News Release for Safety Partners**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** CONTACT: [Name, Title]

[Date] PHONE/EMAIL:

**[ORGANIZATION NAME] HELPS BRING**

***OUR ROADS, OUR SAFETY* INITIATIVE TO MISSISSIPPI**

*Joins safety effort to prevent crashes with commercial motor carriers*

**[City, State]** – [Organization name] is joining forces with U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) Mississippi Division Office to bring the *Our Roads, Our Safety* campaign to Mississippi to help eliminate commercial motor vehicle (CMV) traffic collisions along heavily traveled roads throughout the state.

“[Organization name] is excited to be a part of this initiative to make it safer for everyone to travel through Mississippi,” said [spokesperson name and title]. “We are committed to reducing dangerous driver behaviors like speeding or distracted driving and educating all road users on how to share the road safely. And we’re looking forward to kickstarting *Our Roads, Our Safety* in our great state!”

The [*Our Roads, Our Safety*](https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/ourroads) effort will primarily focus on both passenger vehicle and CMV driver behaviors, but ultimately educates all road users on [how to share the road safely](https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/ourroads/tips-driving-safely-around-large-trucks-or-buses). When traveling on our roads, make a plan to follow these tips:

* **Stay out of blind spots.** Large trucks and buses have huge blind spots on all four sides.
* **Pass safely.** Make sure you can see the CMV driver in his or her sideview mirror. Signal clearly, and don’t linger in the blind spot. Make sure the truck or bus is visible in your rearview mirror before you pull in front; give it extra space.
* **Don’t cut off large vehicles.** It takes a large truck traveling at highway speeds the length of two football fields to stop.
* **Don’t tailgate.** Tailgating a truck or bus puts you in a blind spot.
* **Avoid distracted driving.** Everyone on the road should obey all traffic laws which includes staying focused, as driving distracted is as dangerous as driving impaired

The goal of *Our Roads, Our Safety* is to eliminate highway fatalities due to CMV collisions. All road users should share the road safely.

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*[Organization boilerplate language]*