



Alabama Trucking Association  
Workers Compensation Fund

alliance

An OSHA Cooperative Program

*A Newsletter For Our Members Where Safety Is Our Primary Concern!*

**April  
2017**

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**Congratulations**

**to the 2016 Workers Compensation Fund Loss Control Safety Award Winners**

The SMMC Safety Award Banquet was held on March 27, 2017 in Pelham, AL. The Safety Awards for 2016 were broken out into 5 categories:

**Allied – Four Star Freightliner, Inc.**

**Small Fleet – B & T Mineral, LLC**

**Medium Fleet – Johnston Trucking, LLC**

**Large Fleet – Southern Haulers, LLC**

**Safety Engineer Award “Most Improved” – TeamOne Logistics**

Recipients of our Safety Awards are chosen on several factors including: annual contribution, overall Loss Ratio, commitment and receptiveness to instill a culture of accident prevention, willingness to implement our Risk Management model and utilization of our Loss Control services. We are passionate about our Risk Management model and those companies that embrace the model have significantly reduced WC losses which as increased productivity and generated increases in their bottom line profits. Our goal is simple: To help our Fund members focus on their employee's safety and health because it is the right thing to do. It is a daily challenge that we strive for assisting our Fund members to accept the safety vision that: “Every driver and every employee, goes home safe and healthy every day.”

We also will be recognizing our Fund members with a framed Certificate of Recognition who had a 0% Loss Ratio for the 2016 policy year. This is quite an accomplishment so be on the lookout for your award.



*Allied: Jerry Kocan, Four Star Freightliner, Inc. and Candy Woodruff, ATA Workers Compensation Fund*



*Small Fleet – Bubba Youngblood, B & T Mineral, LLC and Michael Smith, ATA Workers Compensation Fund*



*Medium Fleet – Luke Johnston, Johnston Trucking, LLC and Victor Whatley, ATA Workers Compensation Fund*



*Large Fleet – James Burnett, Adam Casey, Southern Haulers, LLC and Michael Smith, ATA Workers Compensation Fund*



*Engineer's Award – Michael Smith, ATA Workers Compensation Fund, Patsy White, Jeff Hudson, Page Siplon, TeamOne Logistics*



# April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month



Distracted driving has become an unfortunate part of our culture. Although you may have the urge to stay productive for your job, or connected to your family you are no good to your company if you are hurt. Being distracted behind the wheel is very dangerous. Follow these steps to make it easier to Just Drive behind the wheel.

- Schedule calls for times when you will not be driving
- Avoid calling your colleagues, clients etc. if you know they are driving
- Plan your workday ahead of time so you won't need to use a mobile device for calls, texts or emails while behind the wheel – even hands-free
- Change your voicemail greeting to something like: "Hi, you've



reached (insert name). I'm either away from my phone or I'm driving. Please leave a message." You also can let callers know approximately what time you will be available again so they know when to expect to hear from you.

- If a ringing phone is too tempting, get in the habit of silencing your phone before you start to drive, shutting down the phone completely, or lock it in the trunk or glove box
- Allow enough time during your drive for stops so you can pull over and park in a safe location to make phone calls, check text messages, check email and voice-mail messages, if necessary
- Consider using call-blocking technology when you are driving
- Input destinations into GPS before the vehicle is in motion

Remember, hands-free devices don't make you safer – while they allow for one more hand to be placed on the steering wheel, they do not reduce the distraction to the brain.

The message is a simple one, when you are behind the wheel, Just Drive.

