



U.S. Department of
Transportation
Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

ORDER

DOT 3902.9A

5-11-86

Subject: SAFETY BELT USE

1. **PURPOSE.** This Order requires each Department of Transportation (DOT) employee to wear a safety belt when riding in a motor vehicle on official Government business.
2. **CANCELLATION.** DOT 3902.9, Safety Belt Use, dated May 11, 1983.
3. **BACKGROUND.** Wearing a safety belt can reduce the chance of death or serious injury in a crash by about 50 percent. To assure this benefit for its employees, the Department implemented a model safety belt program in early 1983. The success of this program--a use rate of over 60 percent and many reports of crashes in which the belts protected employees and their families--led to the issuance of a permanent Department-wide Order for safety belt use. The policy of that Order is hereby reaffirmed and strengthened.
4. **POLICY.** It is the Department's policy that:
 - a. Each motor vehicle used for official Government business shall be equipped with the number of safety belts originally installed in such vehicle.
 - b. Each employee shall have a safety belt properly fastened, when available, about their body while riding in a motor vehicle on official Government business.
 - c. Each employee operating a motor vehicle on official Government business shall request all passengers to fasten their safety belt.
 - d. Each employee is encouraged to wear a safety belt while riding in any other motor vehicle.
5. **RESPONSIBILITY.**
 - a. Departmental Officers and Heads of Operating Administrations shall inform employees about the safety belt policy and shall ensure that they comply with it.
 - b. Each employee shall comply with the safety belt policy and shall notify the appropriate fleet manager for the repair of any nonfunctioning belt in a vehicle owned or leased by the Government.
6. **COMPLIANCE.** Any employee who fails to wear a safety belt while riding in a motor vehicle on official Government business will be subject to disciplinary or adverse action in accordance with DOT Order 3770.1C, Disciplinary and Adverse Actions and Appeals, dated September 1, 1980.



Elizabeth Hanford Dole
Secretary of Transportation

DISTRIBUTION: All DOT Employees

OPI: Office of
Administrative
Operations