“Move Over” Law

Ohio law requires all drivers to move to an adjacent lane and/or slow down when approaching a stopped police vehicle, other emergency vehicle (like a fire truck), road service vehicle (like a tow truck), waste collection vehicle, highway maintenance vehicle or public utility commission vehicle when these vehicles have their warning lights activated.

“Move Over” Crashes and Citations

From 2015-2019, there were 49 OSHP patrol car crashes that were “move over” related. These crashes resulted in one death of a civilian and 49 injuries to officers and civilians. In 2019, there were 14 such crashes, the highest total over the five-year period.

Alcohol and/or drugs played a role in 27% of these “move over” crashes. Fifty-one percent (51%) of “move over” crashes took place on Interstates and another 31% occurred on US and State routes.

Wet roads or those covered in snow, ice or slush accounted for 49% of “move over” crashes. Forty-seven percent (47%) occurred during daylight hours while 39% happened on dark, unlit roadways.

OSHP troopers wrote 23,429 citations for violations of the “Move Over” law from 2015-2019. Citations more than tripled over the five years including a 30% jump from 2018 to 2019.