

SPEEDING ***SLOWS YOU DOWN***

The Evansville Police Department Urging Drivers to Slow Down

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 12, 2023

Evansville, Ind. — This summer, the Evansville Police Department is teaming up with other law enforcement agencies in Indiana to keep drivers and passengers safe by raising awareness about the dangers of speeding and urging drivers to obey speed limits.

From July 10 to July 31, Evansville Police Officers will be on high alert for speeding vehicles while participating in the *Speeding Slows You Down* campaign (Blitz 119), funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) through the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI).

Not only is speeding illegal, it's also deadly. In 2021, speeding killed 252 people in Indiana, accounting for more than one-quarter of all crash fatalities. Tragically, there was a dramatic increase (15%) in speeding-related crash fatalities from 2021-2022.

Preliminary data shows that in 2022, speeding killed 290 people in Indiana, with nearly 300 fatalities projected in 2023. The Evansville Police Department wants to remind drivers that, no matter how seasoned you are as a driver, ultimately, *Speeding Slows You Down*.

Much like impaired driving, speeding can have deadly consequences for the driver, passengers, and pedestrians. Speeding reduces a driver's ability to steer safely around another vehicle, a hazardous object, or an unexpected curve. Even the safest cars with the newest technologies are limited in how much they can help reduce the odds of a crash.

"Speed limit signs are not suggestions, they are the law. "They are posted for the safety of the driver and others. Unfortunately, we see people speeding every day." said Sgt. Anna Gray with the Evansville Police Department.

*For more information, please visit www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/speeding.