

**REMARKS FOR KEN SIMONSON
HIGHWAY WORK ZONE SAFETY SURVEY
MEDIA EVENT**

- **Good afternoon and thank you for joining us today. With me is Steve McGough, the President and CEO of HCSS, Marty McKee, vice president of King Asphalt in Liberty, South Carolina and the highway**

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federal, state and local o

zones, putting workers at risk of serious harm and death.

- **Yet, as the new data we are releasing today makes clear, motorists are in even greater danger from those highway work zone crashes.**
- **Those crashes are happening far too frequently. According to the results of our highway work zone survey, sixty-four percent of respondents reported at least one crash in the past year involving a moving vehicle at highway work zones where they operate.**
- **More troubling, 32 percent of firms experiencing these kinds of crashes reported it happening five or more times during the past twelve months.**

- **Eighteen percent of the contractors experienced a crash that resulted in injury to construction workers. But drivers and passengers were injured in those crashes at more than double the rate – 41 percent.**
- **Drivers and passengers also are twice times as likely to be killed in work zone crashes as construction workers. Seven percent of the contractors report that construction workers were killed in a crash in one or more of their work zones, while 15 percent of the firms experienced a crash in which drivers and passengers were killed.**
- **Even more troubling, 97 percent of contractors report that highway work zones are either as dangerous, or more dangerous, than they were on year ago.**

- **Construction firms are going to great lengths to**

- **Indeed, a new public service video we are releasing today tells the tragic story of young Marshall Walton. He lost his life to a distracted driver – who was most likely on his phone – while working on a road project. That terrible tragedy forever changed the lives of his parents, colleagues and friends.**
- **Fortunately, they have channeled their grief into efforts to make our highway work zones even safer and pushing for laws in Alabama to better protect workers and motorists alike in work zones.**
- **Many of our other chapters are working with state officials to get those c**

- **The best thing anyone can do to protect themselves and workers is to slow down, put the phone away and pay attention when they are in a highway work zone.**
- **We are all busy. But nobody is too busy to slow down, pay attention and save a life – particularly when that life is likely to be their own.**
- **So as folks get ready to hit the road this summer for a much-deserved vacation, remember one thing: getting to your destination a few seconds early isn't worth the lifetime of guilt that comes with taking the life of someone in your car or working on the road. Stay off the gas and put the phone down when you are in a work zone.**
- **That way everyone can have a summer that is as safe as it is fun.**

- **Now I would like to hand things over to Steve McGough from HCSS...**