



**ARRIVE ALIVE!**

Contributed by: Sgt. Linda Covert

It is undisputed that the faster you drive, the more likely you are to have a traffic crash. If you do have a crash, speed will be a factor in the crash severity. The faster you are traveling at the time of the crash, the greater the damage and the higher the risk of death or injury. This also includes city driving, not just on the interstate or highways. When you consider the number of bikes and pedestrians in our busy city, the propensity for injuries climbs dramatically.

Speeding is cited as a major factor in nearly one-third of motor vehicle crashes. The issue deserves the same attention and emphasis as occupant protection and impaired driving programs in reducing deaths and injuries from motor vehicle crashes.

**Here are just five reasons to drive slower:**

**1. Save gas.** The best ways to save gas (besides driving less or driving a fuel-efficient vehicle) are to avoid excessive idling, more gradual accelerating and decelerating, and driving slower. With gas prices so high these days, wasting gas by driving unnecessarily fast is something we can't afford.

**2. Save lives.** Driving fast can kill people (including the driver). Two stats: Traffic is the biggest single killer of 12 to 16 year olds. Surprisingly, at 35 mph you are twice as likely to kill someone you hit as at 30 mph. Faster driving gives you a shorter amount of time to respond to something in your path, and even a fraction of a second can mean the difference between life and death. Drive slower for your safety and that of those around you ... especially around runners, cyclists, schools, and neighborhoods with kids on the streets.

**3. Save time.** While you think you're saving time by driving faster, it's not a lot of time. And that small amount of time you're saving isn't worth it, considering the other factors on this list. Better yet, start out a few minutes early and you'll arrive at the same time as someone who drove faster but started later.

**4. Save your sanity.** The above three reasons are very important ones, but for me the most noticeable difference has been the huge drop in stress levels when I drive. Far from being a crazy experience, driving is actually a relaxing and pleasant experience now. I simply don't

*(Continued on page 4)*

**Please Take the Central District Survey:**

Every year we ask you to help identify the issues and crimes that are impacting you in your neighborhoods and around your businesses. We also want to know how are service levels measure up. Please take a couple of minutes to complete the on-line survey. Just copy and paste the address onto your browser address bar and tell us what you think.

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=l1PIhmPI\\_2fSZin5iEW\\_2bJVA\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=l1PIhmPI_2fSZin5iEW_2bJVA_3d_3d)

## CRIME OVERVIEW

### Person Crimes: Batteries

Date	Time	Address	Details
8/2	1:00 am	400 Blk N Frances	The victim was walking in the 400 block of North Frances Street when an altercation occurred with two other males. The victim was punched, causing him to strike the ground and lose consciousness, and kicked while on the ground. There were conflicting witness reports regarding the race of the suspects who fled the scene.
8/6	2:30 am	600 Blk E Gorham	The suspect was arrested and charged with Domestic Battery and False Imprisonment for an incident involving his live-in ex-girlfriend. The victim armed herself with a knife to defend herself, and was also subsequently arrested for an outstanding warrant.
8/15	1:45 am	100 Blk State St	Officers responded to a large fight outside Frida's, but most of the parties fled the scene. A possible victim was contacted at a local hospital. Investigation continuing.
8/16	2:35 am	University/Lake	Suspect was arrested and charged with Battery and Disorderly Conduct for a fight outside Brother's Bar.
8/17	6:35 pm	700 Blk Jenifer St	Suspect was involved in a domestic with his girlfriend which resulted in PC for suspects arrest for Domestic Battery and Domestic False Imprisonment.
8/18	1:05 pm	400 Blk State St	Suspect was arrested for attacking the victim in Peace Park.
8/18	8:25 pm	300 Blk John Nolen	Suspect was arrested for battering the victim and creating a disturbance with his ex-girlfriend.
8/19	1:20 am	600 Blk State St	Two suspects were arrested for a fight in front of the City Bar. Charges included Battery and Disorderly Conduct.

### Disturbances, Other

Date	Time	Location	Details
8/1	4:20 am	300 Blk E Johnson	Suspect was arrested for DC While Armed when he went to a house for revenge while carrying a stick.
8/21	5:46 pm	1300 Blk Dewey Ct	Domestic altercation between suspect and victim, who had a previous relationship, result in suspect being charged with numerous charges, including False Imprisonment, Disorderly Conduct, and Criminal Damage to Property.

### Person Crimes: Robbery

Date	Time	Address	Details
8/1	2:50 am	Spring/Charter	Victim was walking on the bike path when she was approached by two male black suspects who confronted her, threw her to the ground, and took her purse. During the confrontation, one suspect displayed a large kitchen-type knife. Suspects described as male blacks, early 20s, average build.
8/1	2:20 am	10 Blk Langdon	Victim was walking on Langdon when approached from behind by two black male suspects who grabbed her purse which was strapped to her arm, causing a laceration.
8/14	2:55 am	10 Blk N Franklin	Suspect was arrested for stealing the victim's purse and eventually charged with an additional robbery after a lineup.
8/20	12:25 pm	600 Blk State St	The suspect entered the UW Credit Union, presented a note to the teller indicating it was a robbery, and got away with a large sum of money.

## CRIME OVERVIEW CONTINUED

### Property Crimes: Burglaries

Date	Location	Type	Entry	Targeted/Stolen
5/17-6/1	500 Blk N Lake	Residential	Unknown	Discovered upon return from summer break; flat-screen TV, I-Home Electronics, DVD player, clothing
Unk	1800 Blk Fordem	Residential	Unknown	Bike
8/6	1100 Blk Williamson	Residential	Door forced open	Cleaning supplies
8/6	100 Blk S Bassett	Residential	Door pried	CDs
5/5-8/7	600 Blk N Carroll	Residential	Unknown	Medication
8/7	400 Blk W Doty	Residential	Screen removed	Laptop
8/8	300 Blk S Hamilton	Residential	Unknown	Motorcycle tank bag
8/11	300 Blk E Washington	Non-Residential	Removed lock	Laptop, docking station, wireless card
8/13	500 Blk Conklin	Residential	Unlocked door	Laptops, iPhone, cash, backpack
8/16	100 Blk S Bedford	Residential	Open window	Laptop with battery
8/16	400 Blk W Main	Residential	Unlocked door	Laptop
8/21	500 Blk W Dayton	Residential	Unlocked door	Laptop, iPod
8/24	200 Blk N Frances	Residential	Unlocked door	X-Box 360, cash.
8/25	400 Blk N Carroll	Residential	Unlocked window	Wallet, iPod, passport, Blackberry Curve
8/26	100 Blk E Gorham	Residential	Open window	X-Box w/controller, X-Box games, wireless controllers

### Person Crimes: Sexual Assault

Date	Time	Address	Details
8/16		500 Blk Conklin Pl	The victim accompanied the suspect to the address on Conklin Place where he forced her into an apartment and assaulted her.



## CAPITOL K9 HOSTS SUCCESSFUL EVENT

On Labor Day, Madison's Goodman Pool hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Capital K9's Labor Day Dog Paddle. The pool was open for people to bring their dogs for a swim, all to support the MPD K9 unit. More than 1,000 dogs and almost 2,000 people attended during the course of the day. Dogs enjoyed taking a dip in Madison's pool, and competed in a number of competitions (longest jump, speed retrieve, etc.).

The Madison Police Department K9 unit is funded exclusively through community donations (except for officer salaries). Capital K9's is a non-profit organization that exists solely to raise funds for the MPD K9 unit, and the Dog Paddle is the group's signature annual fundraising event.

Thanks to all the volunteers who organized and staffed the event, and to everyone who attended.

Check out [www.capitalk9s.org](http://www.capitalk9s.org) for more information.

## ARRIVE CONTINUED

care whether other drivers are going slow or cutting me off.

**5. Simplify your life.** This is related to the one above but expanded. In addition to saving your stress levels, driving slower can reduce many other complications as well — the headache of crashes and speeding tickets, going to the gas station too often, struggling with the hectic pace of life, etc. Life is a journey — make it a pleasant one.

Assuming that you want to drive slower, here are some of the tips for you:

- **Play relaxing music.** Anything that relaxes you is good. Whatever you choose, enjoy it and relax.
- **Do no let other drivers anger you.** Don't care so much about what the other drivers are doing. Retaliation just leads to road rage and increasingly dangerous driving.
- **Leave early.** If you speed because you're running late, make it a habit of getting ready early and leaving early. Now you don't have to worry about being late, and you can enjoy the ride.
- **Brainstorm.** Use your drive time for contemplation. Come up with ideas for things to write about; think about your day (either the day to come or the day in review); think about your life as a whole and where you want to go.
- **Courtesy goes a long way.** It's always good to be polite.
- **Enjoy the drive.** Most of all make your drive a pleasant experience — while you cannot change others sharing the road, *you get to choose your frame of mind.*

### **Only a fool breaks the 2-, 4-, 10-second rule!**

If you are on a dry, clear road and you reach the same fixed point before you have said the 'two' then you are too close and need to drop further back to create the essential minimum of **a two-second gap**. And if you prefer three seconds, rather than two, that's okay.

If you are on a wet road, then you need to have at least **a four-second gap**.

And if it's icy or you are driving on compacted snow or somewhere you know that something slippery (such as diesel fuel) has been spilled, then it is wise to create at least **a ten-second gap**. So you would need to count all the way up to 'one-thousand-ten' before you reach the same fixed point that you watched the vehicle ahead pass. Yes, it will look like a huge gap, but who cares? Your lives, or even your car merely being damaged, are worth more than the opinions of those who don't understand your own greater knowledge of safety.

Last, if an impatient driver passes you, as they often will, then restart your checks on their vehicle and *drop back once more*. It may test your patience, but it's better to test your patience than to test the resilience of your skull as your car slams into the vehicle ahead because you were simply driving too close and couldn't stop. (Adapted from [driveandstayalive.com](http://driveandstayalive.com))

### **It's not for the ride; it's for the crash!**

Good news! Most of you (83%) are already wearing your seat belts—all the time, no matter how far you travel. Give yourselves a pat on the back. We're proud of you for taking this simple measure to reduce your risk for injury or death behind the wheel. Even low-speed crashes can result in serious injury when seat belts are not worn.

Everyone has a reason why they do or do not wear a seat belt. No reason is more important than saving lives or reducing injuries. If you don't routinely buckle up, please reconsider and buckle up each and every time you get into a vehicle, not just as the driver, but as a passenger too.

For those that choose two wheels, with or without a motor, a properly chosen helmet will protect your greatest asset.

Be safe, be smart and arrive alive!

**Madison Police Department**  
Central District  
523 E. Main St.  
Madison, WI 53703  
Phone: 608-266-4316  
[www.madisonpolice.com/central](http://www.madisonpolice.com/central)

