



# 2023 TRAFFIC SAFETY AWARDS

Join Our Driving Concern in lauding the best practices of this year's honorees!

## EXEMPLARY HONORS

### City of Arlington

City of Arlington department managers use fleet-tracking reports to correct driver behavior and address safety issues in a variety of ways, including training.

The City maintains a hotline for residents to report concerns. These and other ongoing safety efforts helped the City experience a **50% decrease in crash costs** from FY21 to FY22 (\$227,008 to \$124,196).

In spring 2022, the City launched its Entry Level Driving Training program. Thirty-seven employees participated in the 30-hour theory class.

Twenty completed the minimum five hours of closed behind-the-wheel and 15 hours of open-course training.

Of the 20 new commercial learner's permit and commercial driver's license-holders, none were involved in a crash driving a city vehicle.

The City promoted traffic safety at its National Night Out Kickoff in July, Back to School Bash in August, Career Day at Amos Elementary and National Night Out in October, reaching more than 10,000 people.

At the Arlington Employee Health & Safety Fair in October, many attendees participated in safety games designed to raise awareness of distracted, fatigued and reckless driving.

To ensure traffic safety remains at the forefront, the City maintains an employee portal stocked with driver-safety resources, including materials from the Our Driving Concern Texas Employer Traffic Safety Program.



**Our Driving Concern** provides free training, education and resources on distracted driving, aggressive driving/speeding, passenger restraint, impaired driving, and other transportation and driver safety topics. We work with risk managers, safety leaders and HR professionals to help them build their driver and traffic safety programs.

The annual **Our Driving Concern Traffic Safety Awards** are presented to Texas organizations that encourage positive driver behaviors among employees on and off the job. The goal is to decrease injuries and fatalities that are a result of crashes on state roads.

# HONORING TEXAS EMPLOYERS

**The workplace is a natural setting for distributing traffic safety messages and discussing driver behaviors –and it makes dollars and sense to do just that.**

## Pioneer Natural Resources

A mindset of continual improvement sets Pioneer Natural Resources apart when it comes to transportation safety.

Pioneer's Safe Driving Subcommittee, comprised of members from all levels of the company, promotes a psychologically safe environment. During meetings, all voices are set at equal volume. Field personnel work with management to make data-driven decisions.

Pioneer in-vehicle monitoring is used to facilitate coaching conversations, optimize maintenance, analyze trends, shorten driving routes and record fuel use.

One Pioneer driver won the region's inaugural **No Need for Speed** award after more than 600 hours behind

the wheel during a six-month period without incident. In addition to its **S.A.F.E.R. driver training** and **Risk Assessment Drive** programs, Pioneer recognizes employees through its **WELL DONE** appreciation program.

## Texas Mutual Insurance Company

After implementing a new in-vehicle monitoring system last year, Texas Mutual Insurance Company saw driver safety scores rise to an average of 97.6, while the vehicle incident rate dropped to 0.78. Texas Mutual has experienced a **61% decrease in crashes** since first adding in-vehicle monitoring in 2018.

Texas Mutual's 77 fleet drivers drove more than 1.2 million miles last year. The company commits to getting them home safely every day by tracking seat belt use, hard-braking and

speeding events, and addressing concerns with drivers. Texas Mutual offers defensive driving courses twice a year to employees, their family members and friends. Last year, 931 policyholders attended 51 in-person classes; more than 1,000 others attended online. Fleet drivers are required to attend defensive driving courses every two years.

The company participated in a study to analyze vehicle crashes in the Permian Basin and Eagle Ford Shale



TEXAS MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

## LIFE-SAVING, COST-SAVING RESULTS

**Following are highlights from our award honorees' measurable results. Traffic safety programs WORK.**

- ✓ The City of Arlington experienced a **50% decrease in crash costs** from FY21 to FY22 (\$227,008 to \$124,196).
- ✓ Last year, **931 Texas Mutual policyholders** attended in-person defensive driving classes and more than 1,000 others attended online.
- ✓ After implementing a new in-vehicle monitoring system last year, Texas Mutual Insurance Company saw **driver safety scores rise to an average of 97.6**.
- ✓ Ace Fluid Solutions' driving safety culture has led to a **75% reduction in motor vehicle incidents** and a 50% decline in driving events.
- ✓ At the City of Grand Prairie, **crash incidents dropped from seven in 2021 to two in 2022** thanks to its driver safety program efforts.
- ✓ JR Ramon Demolition's unique Driver Safety Banner of the Month program has helped **incident rates drop by 45%** from 2021.
- ✓ A Pioneer Natural Resources driver **won the region's inaugural No Need for Speed award** after more than 600 hours behind the wheel during a six-month period without incident.
- ✓ Stewart Welding & Machine's traffic safety program results include **zero auto crash losses out of 88 vehicles** and about 1.32 million miles traveled; moderate speeding events declined by 40% and severe speeding events declined by 85%.

[txdrivingconcern.org](http://txdrivingconcern.org)

# PUTTING SAFETY FIRST

The Our Driving Concern program's mission is to assist employers in implementing well-developed policies and comprehensive workplace programs that can help reduce traffic crashes.

in partnership with the University of Texas Dell Medical School. The study identified a need to promote safe driving behaviors for smaller employers in the oil and gas industries, especially in Midland and Odessa.

## AWARD HONORS

### Ace Fluid Solutions

Odessa-based Ace Fluid Solutions is a leading product, stimulation chemical and water services provider operating in the Permian Basin region. Company drivers are required to complete defensive driving courses and a graduated driver's license training recertification course every two years. Ace uses in-vehicle monitoring to track driver behavior and guide daily driver coaching sessions.

Ace policies ensure driver safety:

- Seat belts are required

- No manual data entry is allowed while behind the wheel
- Journey management is required for each trip

The company's driving safety culture has led to a **75% reduction in motor vehicle incidents** and a 50% decline in driving events.

### City of Irving

While staffing shortages have reduced the time police and court personnel can spend developing traffic safety initiatives, the City of Irving continues to do more with less.

The City partners with the Our Driving Concern Texas Employer Traffic Safety Program to make use of free online training opportunities and resources designed to curb crashes involving speeding, distracted driving and impaired driving. Safety leaders distribute these materials in the

Spectrum newsletter, at safety fairs and via social media.

At the employee health and safety fair, **264 people signed a pledge** to help end the 22-year streak of daily deaths on Texas roads.

### City of Waco

City of Waco Administrative leaders ensure employees are educated and understand that each has the responsibility to make safe driving a priority on and off the job.

City policies and procedures, including those regulating wireless communication while driving and substance use, support a commitment to road safety.

Through a **Road to Zero grant**, City personnel:

- Made improvements to Waco Drive/Highway 84, including vehicle detection and pedestrian crossing infrastructure
- Planned roundabouts to slow traffic
- Addressed preparedness for inclement weather
- Developed a Safe Ride Home program to reduce impaired driving

### JR Ramon Demolition

JR Ramon Demolition provides demolition and support services in Austin, San Antonio and South Texas. The company launched a Driver Safety Banner of the Month program. Employees created safety banners, with



"Every employee we have is special and deserves our respect. What happens to the people matters to me! Maybe it's selfish on my part, but I don't want to find out something happened to one of our guys and learn later I didn't do everything possible to protect them."

**Bob Stewart**, Stewart Welding & Machine Inc., winner of this year's inaugural CEO of Excellence Award

# AWARD HONORS

one selected each month to display. The winner received \$100. These banners **helped incident rates drop by 45%** from 2021.

JR Ramon uses performance evaluations to coach drivers, who receive at least 26 hours of driver safety training each year and are required to conduct daily inspections of their vehicles. When an incident occurs, JR Ramon investigates to determine the root cause. Follow-up discussions with drivers help build a better safety plan.

JR Ramon offers free safety training to all San Antonio-area industry personnel, demonstrating driver and transportation safety as a core value.

## **Stewart Welding & Machine Inc.**

In 2022, Andrews-based Stewart Welding & Machine implemented

telematics in its fleet vehicles. The technology enables company safety leaders to monitor driver behavior and track incidents such as hard-braking. Data collected is used to coach drivers.

During the 2021-2022 insurance policy year, company safety leaders noted:

- **Zero auto crash losses out of 88 vehicles** and about 1.32 million miles traveled
- Moderate speeding events declined by 40% and **severe speeding events declined by 85%**
- Hard-braking declined by 65% and harsh-acceleration declined by 75%
- Aggressive cornering incidents declined by 82%

## **HONORABLE MENTION**

### **City of Grand Prairie Revenue Management Dept**

In 2022, City of Grand Prairie safety leaders placed a new focus on driver and transportation safety, turning to the Our Driving Concern Texas Employer Traffic Safety Program.

Supervisors and team leads staged weekly driver safety huddles, and employees led driver safety presentations on a rotating basis.

City personnel began to attend Our Driving Concern road-safety webinars, and new employees complete ODC's online driving behavior modules. Along with conducting pre- and post-trip vehicle inspections, Grand Prairie drivers are monitored for preventative maintenance.

## **CEO OF EXCELLENCE AWARD**

**Bob Stewart learned safety from his father—and his father before him. He is the third-generation owner of a company that celebrates its 80th anniversary in September. He also is the first winner of the Our Driving Concern Texas Employer Traffic Safety Program CEO Award of Excellence.**



**Bob Stewart, Stewart Welding & Machine, Inc.**

Since purchasing the family business in December 1997, Bob Stewart has expanded Andrews-based Stewart Welding & Machine's oilfield fabrication services to encompass everything from environmental remediation to small vessel manufacturing. He also has expanded the company's commitment to safety by implementing telematics in fleet vehicles.

Drivers follow Bob's lead. He treats safety as more than a company value. In fact, he treats safety as a way of valuing each one of his employees individually, making sure they stay out of harm's way.

"I believe one of the reasons for our success is our one-on-one personal approach," Stewart said. "What happens to the people matters to me! Maybe it's selfish on my part, but I don't want to find out something happened to one of our guys and learn later I didn't do everything possible to protect them."

The implementation of a vehicle telematics system is one example of how Bob and his team use new safety tools to keep pace in an ever-changing working environment. Yet, many old safety standbys remain in place. Company policies cover everything from seat belt use to properly securing loads. The testament of how employees embrace Stewart's culture of safety is evident in longevity. Some have worked more than 30 years at the company.

Bob, 59, is not only a leader at work but also in the community. He serves on the Andrews Soil and Water Conservation Board, Property Appraisal Board, National Bank of Andrews Board of Directors and as a committee member on the Andrews Industrial Foundation. He is the past Chair of the Andrews Economic Development Steering Committee.