



Texas Motorcycle Safety Coalition
Quarterly Meeting
Thursday, September 4, 2025
10:00 am – noon

This meeting will be recorded



Center for
Transportation Safety



Welcome & Introductions



Agenda

- Welcome, Opening Remarks, & Introductions
- Safety Minute
- Task Force Update
- Guest Speaker: Christopher Gray
- Break 10-minutes
- Guest Speaker: Crystal O'Rear
- Announcements & Open Forum
- Adjourn

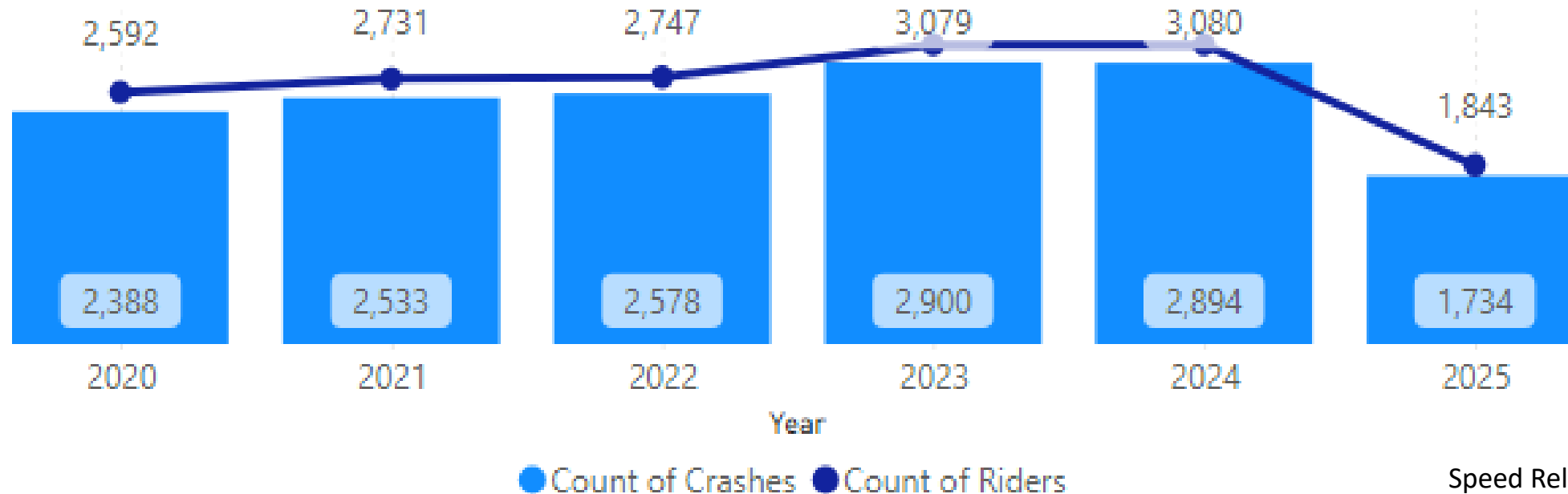


You control your speed risk level.

58%
Motorcycle
only

Count of Crashes, Count of Riders

BY YEAR



Speed Related Motorcycle Crashes
Data as of 8/26/25, 2:34 PM
Filtered by **Speed Related** (is True)

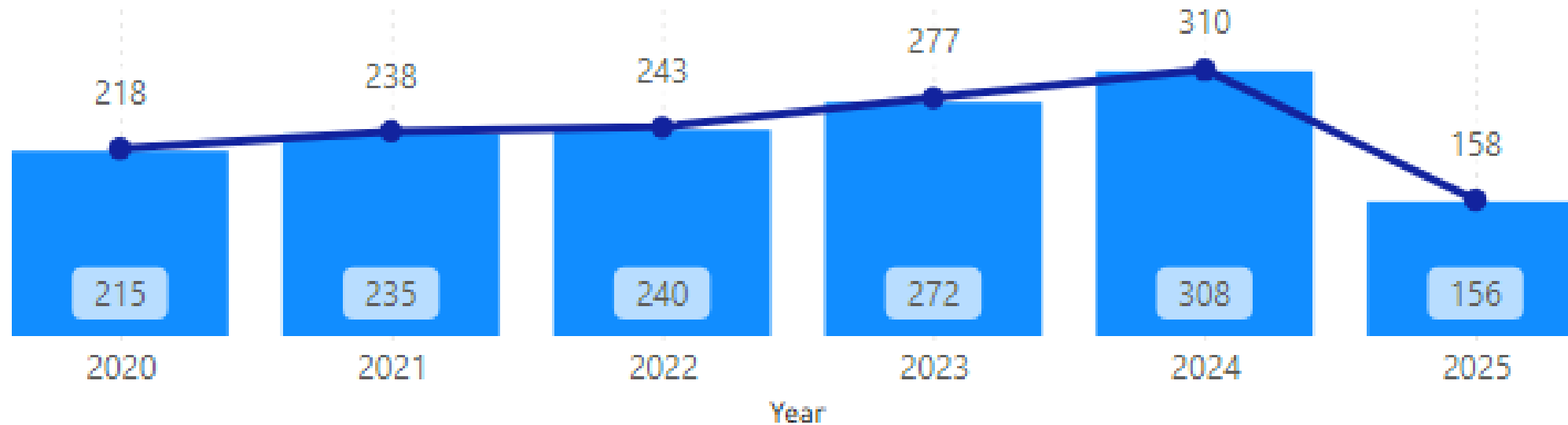


Enjoy the Next Ride Too!

**52%
Motorcycle
only**

Count of Crashes, Count of Riders

BY YEAR



● Count of Crashes ● Count of Riders

Speed Related Motorcycle Crashes
Data as of 8/26/25, 2:34 PM
Filtered by **Injury Severity** (is FATAL INJURY),
Speed Related (is True)



Task Force Update

Unlicensed Rider Outreach

Legislative Update

~~2026 NHTSA Assessment~~



Center for
Transportation Safety



Municipal Courts

Texas Municipal Courts Education Center

Helped develop and distribute to all municipal courts in Texas

Municipal Traffic Safety Initiatives

NO MOTORCYCLE LICENSE DISMISSAL PACKET



Texas Has a Big Problem with Unlicensed Motorcyclists!

The majority of motorcycle collisions in Texas from 2020–2024 involved a rider without a Class M license. The graph below shows the number of collisions for unlicensed (red) versus licensed (blue) riders:



Data used was pulled from the TxDOT Crash Records Information System, updated 4/29/2025. All motorcycle rider and passenger injury severities, not including out-of-state or unknown license status.



Since 2020, over half of the motorcycle operators killed on Texas roads did not have a valid motorcycle (Class M) license.

What Can You Do About It?

Order Obtaining a Class M License as a Condition of Deferred Disposition

It has been suggested that a lack of training is a major reason unlicensed riders are more likely to be involved in a collision than licensed ones. Municipal judges are uniquely situated to address the problems above.

If a person is charged with operating a motorcycle without a Class M license or was operating a motorcycle without a license at the time of some other offense, a municipal judge may grant deferred disposition with a condition that the person obtain a Class M license.

Obtaining a Class M license requires extensive training on motorcycle operation and safety. Therefore, such a condition would go a long way in making Texas riders safer. Information on how to obtain a Class M license is attached to this packet and may be given to defendants.



Motorcycle riders taking a motorcycle safety course in order to obtain their Class M license.

Applicable Law

Section 521.085(a), Transportation Code

"[A] license holder may operate any vehicle of the type for which that class of license is issued and any lesser type of vehicle other than a motorcycle."

Article 45A.303(b)(10), Code of Criminal Procedure

During deferred disposition, the judge may require the defendant to "comply with any...reasonable condition."

For more information or questions, contact Ned Minevitz at ned@tmccr.com or (512) 320-8274.

Obtaining a Class M License

RIDER

HANDOUT



Need To Get Your Class M (Motorcycle) License?

Here's what you should know to get started.

To obtain a Texas Class M license, you must first complete an approved entry-level motorcycle safety course. There are beginner, intermediate, and 3-wheel courses available. Choose the one that best fits your experience level.

It's about staying safe and legal on the road.



How to Get Your Motorcycle License

A motorcycle (Class M) license is required to ride a motorcycle in Texas, even if you have a valid Texas driver license.

Follow the steps below to get your Texas motorcycle license!

Scan the QR code to learn more about training and licensing to obtain your Class M license in Texas.



Meet the Qualifications

- ☐ Have valid driver license, or
- ☐ Have a learner license, or
- ☐ Have a provisional driver license.

If you don't meet one of these qualifications, learn more about the [requirements for getting a motorcycle license](#).

Motorcycle Safety Course

- ☐ Find a [school](#)
- ☐ Successfully complete an approved motorcycle safety course.
- ☐ Obtain a certificate of completion (MSB-8).
- ☐ MSB-8 is effective for licensing for 24 months.

Gather your documents

- ☐ [U.S. Citizenship](#) or, if you are not a U.S. Citizen, [evidence of lawful presence](#)
 - ☐ [Texas Residency](#)
 - ☐ [Identity](#)
 - ☐ [Social Security Number](#)
 - ☐ Evidence of Texas Vehicle Registration* for each vehicle you own. Registration must be current.
 - » Visit [Texas DMV vehicle registration](#) for more information. (New Residents who are surrendering an out-of-state driver license only)
 - ☐ Proof of Insurance* for each vehicle you own
 - ☐ Motorcycle Safety Course completion certificate (MSB-8)
 - ☐ [Driver License Application](#)
 - » Check the Motorcycle: Yes
- * If you do not own a vehicle, you will sign a statement affirming this.

Go to the DPS Licensing Office

- ☐ Making an [appointment](#) is encouraged.
- ☐ Provide your documents and
 - » Have a picture taken
 - » Pass the vision exam
 - » Pay the application [fee](#).

- ☐ [Minors \(15–17 years\)](#) additionally are required to:
 - » Bring a parent/legal guardian
 - » Take a Motorcycle Drive Test or apply for a J restriction.
 - » 15 year-olds may apply for an I restriction (under 250 cubic centimeter piston displacement).



Law Enforcement

Municipal Courts Packet and separate Rider Handout

- Law Enforcement Liaison representative
- TxDOT Law Enforcement STEP Program Manager
- Texas Prosecutors Association
- TMSC Task Force
 - Dealerships
 - Lawyers

Obtaining a Class M License

RIDER HANDOUT



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- ☐ U.S. Citizenship or, if you are not a U.S. Citizen, evidence of lawful presence
- ☐ Texas Residency
- ☐ Identity
- ☐ Social Security Number
- ☐ Evidence of Texas Vehicle Registration* for each vehicle you own. Registration must be current.
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Social Media Graphics

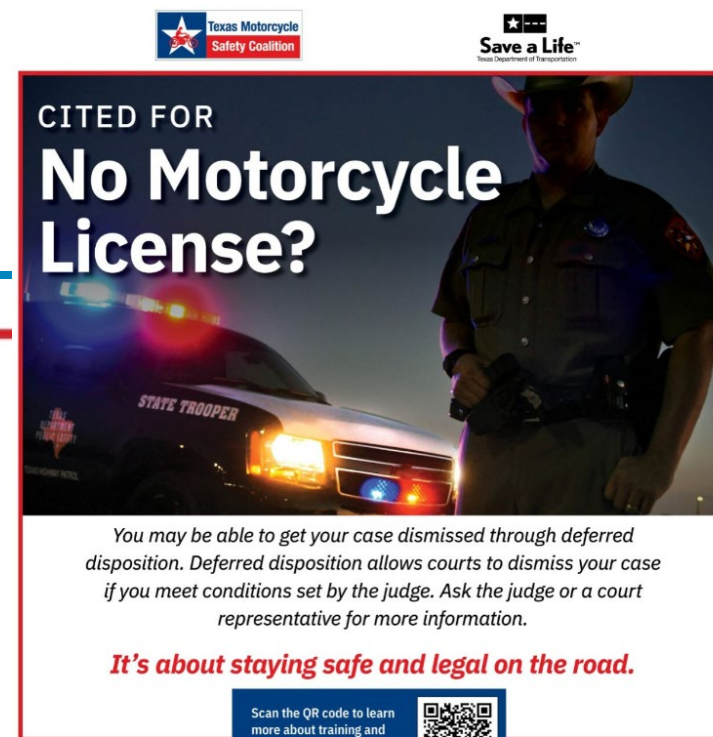


You may be able to get your case dismissed through deferred disposition. Deferred disposition allows courts to dismiss your case if you meet conditions set by the judge. Ask the judge or a court representative for more information.

It's about staying safe and legal on the road.



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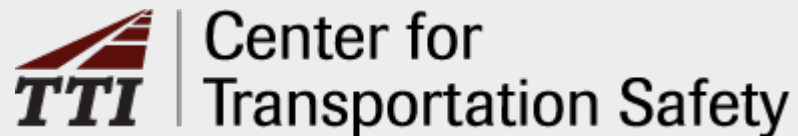


Posted to
LookLearnLive
social channels.
Will continue
periodically.



Legislative Update

Bill	Caption	Latest Action	Date
SB 296 (HB 3861)	Relating to driving safety or motorcycle operator training course dismissal. (Multiple citations dismissed with course completion.)	SB 296 Adopted – Effective 09/01/2025 (Laid on the table subject to call)	05/28/2025 (05/14/2025)
HB 4904	Relating to civil liability of property owners relating to motorcycle instruction and training courses.	Signed by Governor – Effective 09/01/25	06/20/2025
HB 3642 (HB 3461) (HB 1398)	Relating to the designation of portions of the state highway system as memorial highways and bridges, to certain memorial markers and designations on certain highways, and to highway signs for certain cultural attractions.	Signed by Governor – Effective 09/01/25 (Referred to Transportation) (Placed on General State Calendar)	06/20/2025 (03/24/2025) (05/15/2025)



Motorcycle Road Trip Safety

Christopher Gray

Statewide Traffic Incident Management Coordinator

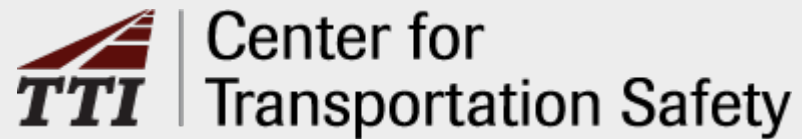
Texas Department Of Transportation



Center for
Transportation Safety



Be Right Back



Unlicensed to Ride

Crystal O'Rear

Research Specialist

Center for Alcohol and Drug Education Studies



Center for
Transportation Safety



Announcements

- Outreach materials now in Spanish
- “Biker Bump”
- Thinking Transportation podcast
- Next TMSC meeting – FY2026
- Seeking volunteers for 2026 Task Force



Open Forum

What events or efforts are happening in your area?

What topic would you like to hear about next meeting?



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