

**NTSB**

National  
Transportation  
Safety Board

# Reducing speed and speeding recidivism: lessons from NTSB investigations

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# NTSB: Who We Are and What We Do

- Independent federal agency
- Investigate civil aviation accidents and surface transportation events
- Determine probable cause and issue safety recommendations
- No regulatory authority
- Five Board Members nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate to serve 5-year terms
- A staff of more than 400 investigators, analysts, researchers, and others support the mission

# Our Mission: *Making Transportation Safer*

We focus solely on safety. We make recommendations that could improve safety across all modes of transportation.

- We do not determine blame or liability
- We do not investigate intentional criminal acts

# Speeding: Critical Highway Safety Issue

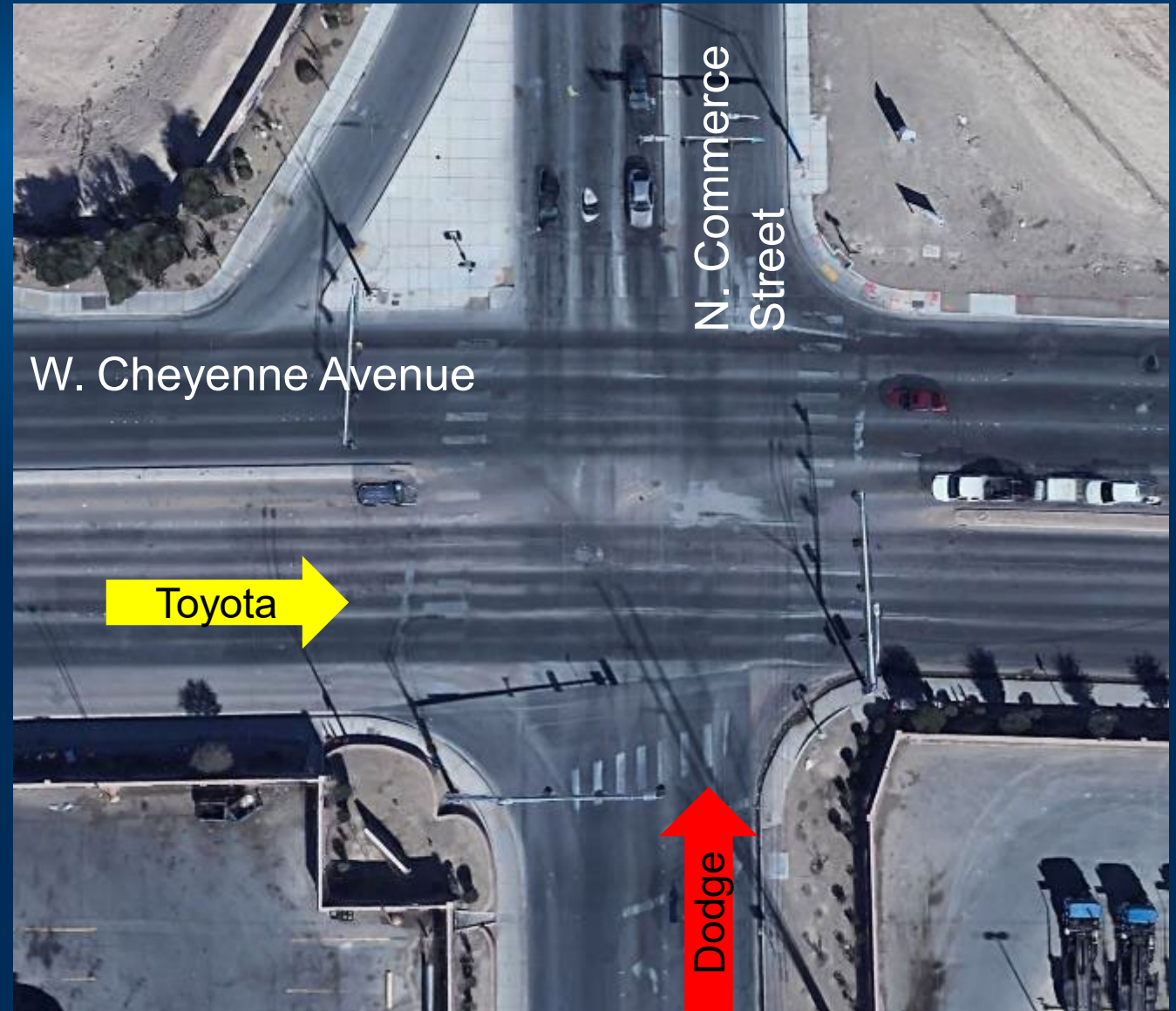
- 30% of fatalities involve excessive speed
- Comprehensive strategies are needed
- NTSB has issued numerous recommendations regarding speeding



Source: Department of Transportation,  
National Roadway Safety Strategy

# North Las Vegas, Nevada Crash

- January 29, 2022, 3:12 p.m.
- Intersection of North Commerce St. and West Cheyenne Ave.
- Primary collision between Dodge Challenger and Toyota Sienna
- Six vehicles containing 15 occupants involved
- Nine fatalities



# Crash Vehicles



2013 Toyota Sienna



2018 Dodge Challenger

# Dodge Driver's Actions

- Dodge Challenger ran stop sign and passed slow truck
- Increased speed until impact
- Red traffic signal for 29 seconds prior to entering intersection
- Did not apply brakes
- Impact at 103 mph
- Driver was impaired by effects of cocaine and PCP



# Driving History

- History of risky driving behavior
- Multiple convictions between 1984 and 2017
- Seven speeding violations in past 5 years
  - Only one appeared on his official 10-year driving record (April 2017)
  - Four pled down to illegal parking

## Five Year History

Date	Citation
04/26/2017	Speeding
05/17/2017	Speeding
12/25/2017– 01/08/2020	License suspended
08/29/2020	Speeding
11/18/2020	Speeding
02/03/2021	Speeding
08/25/2021	Speeding
12/09/2021	Speeding
01/29/2022	*Crash*



# Probable Cause and Safety Issues

- Dodge driver was impaired and was a repeat speeder (risky driver)
- Traditional countermeasures for speeding less effective
- Need for technology to prevent speeding
- Need for countermeasures for repeat speeding offenders

# Technology to Prevent Speeding

- Speed Safety Cameras (Automated Speed Enforcement, ASE)
  - Proven countermeasure
  - Since 2017, NTSB has recommended states remove all ASE restrictions
- Intelligent Speed Assistance, ISA
  - Speed limits determined using onboard cameras and map databases
  - In-vehicle technology and/or aftermarket device
  - Can be passive or active – both have safety benefits
  - NTSB recommendations on ISA since 2012; new recommendations issued in 2024

# Recommendations: Speed-Prevention Technology

## To NHTSA:

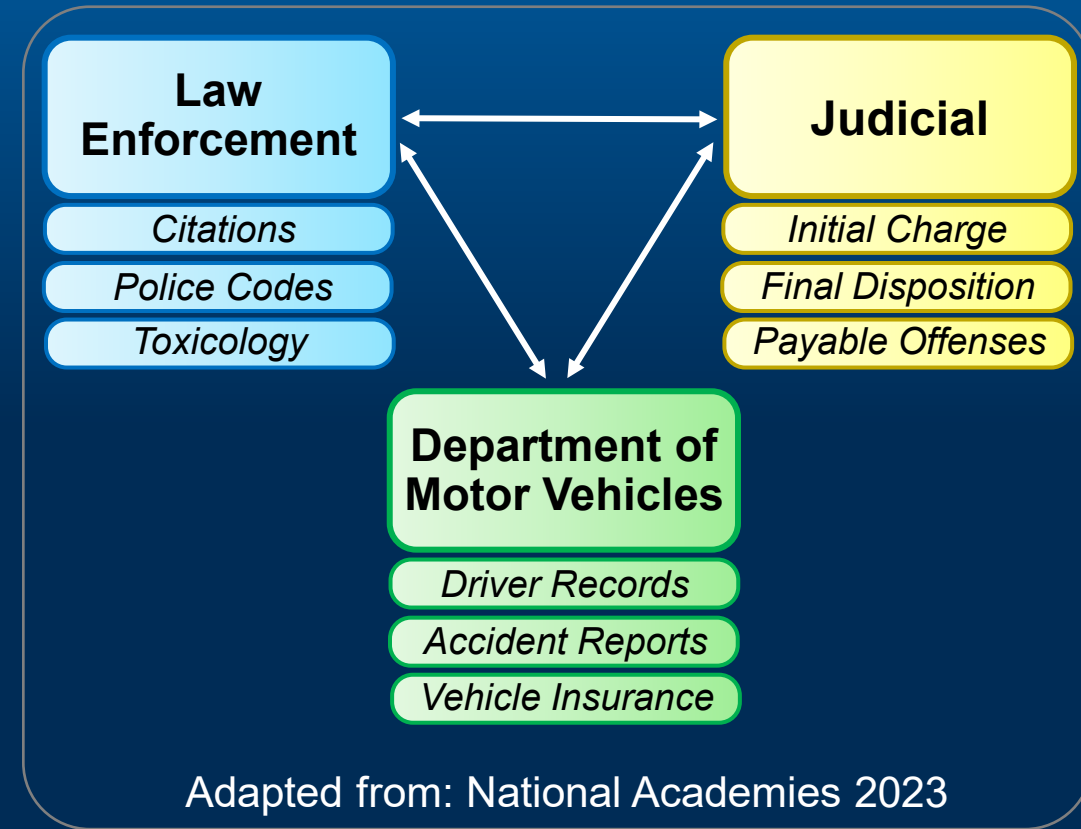
- Require ISA systems that, at a minimum, warn the driver when speed limit is exceeded
- Educate the public about the benefits of ISA to mitigate speeding

## To Automakers:

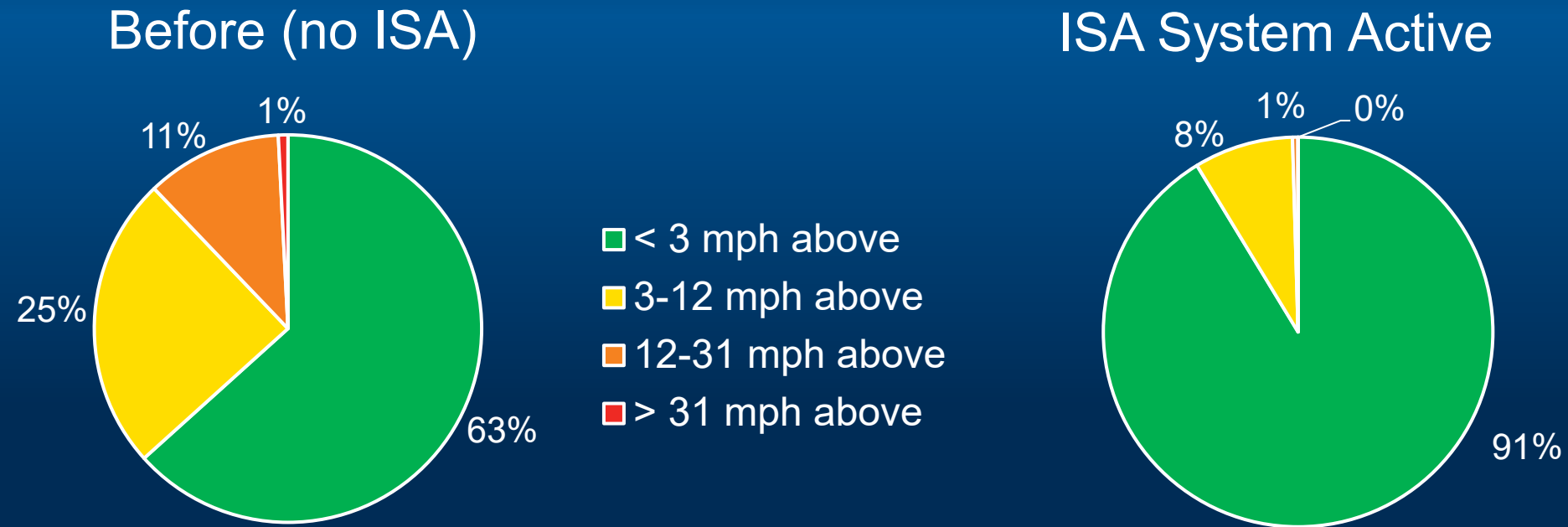
- Install as standard ISA systems that, at a minimum, warn the driver when speed limit is exceeded

# Speeding Recidivism

- Dodge driver was a repeat speeding offender, but his driving record was inaccurate
- Inaccurate driver records limit state's ability to accurately identify repeat offenders
- Identification critical because repeat speeding offenders more likely to cause fatal crashes
- Traditional countermeasures less effective for repeat offenders



# Countermeasures for Repeat Speeding Offenders



Source: van der Pas et al., 2014

- ISA has potential to reduce speed among repeat speeding offenders
- Programs using aftermarket ISA devices could be beneficial

# Recommendations: Speeding Recidivism

## To NHTSA:

- Update guidelines for state highway safety programs to identify and track repeat offenders
- Develop countermeasures to reduce speeding recidivism
- Develop guidelines for states to implement pilot ISA interlock programs

## To States, D.C., and Puerto Rico:

- Implement programs to identify and deter repeat speeding offenders

## To Insurance Institute for Highway Safety:

- Study the effect of automobile marketing showing risky behaviors, such as speeding

# Current State Action on ISA

- New York: legislation proposed to require ISA devices on repeat speeders' vehicles
- Washington, DC: plans to allow installation of ISA on cars of drivers convicted for reckless driving
- California: legislation proposed to require ISA on all vehicles
- Other cities and local governments are embracing ISA in fleets

# What We Encourage States To Do

- Ensure traffic records capture driver's complete history
- Consider countermeasures such as restricting access to diversion programs or plea agreements for repeat speeders
- Consider a “speed interlock” program using ISA devices
  - Similar to an alcohol ignition interlock program
- Remove restrictions for speed safety cameras



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Link to NTSB Report: <https://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/HIR2309.pdf>

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