

Hello all:

I have been receiving e-mails pertaining to the article on safety that I had in the most recent National Magazine. The concern is rural carriers being exempt from state law on wearing seat belts while delivering mail. This is not an error.

The US Postal Service has notified us that since the change in the PO 603 on rural carriers wearing seat belts, that rural carriers are exempt from state seat belt laws while carrying mail.

The PO 603 is clear on when rural carriers MUST wear seat belts, and let there be no misunderstanding the NRLCA promotes wearing a seat belt any time you can.

Postal headquarters has assured us that this has been reviewed by the USPS law department and is in compliance with Federal regulations. In addition, this information is in the new "Lifting the Fog" safety training mandated by all rural carriers.

Once again let me make it clear that rural carriers must wear seat belts per the PO-603 and in addition, we encourage wearing seat belts any time a carrier possible can.

This exemption is only for wearing seat belts and rural carriers MUST OBEY all other state laws when operating an automobile.

Thank You!
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