

Georgia road deaths topping 1,000 this year

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Georgia Department of Transportation Commissioner Russell McMurry.

Take the Drive Alert. Arrive Alive pledge and help reduce the number of fatalities in Georgia's roads.

It's a three-part promise to buckle up, don't text and drive, and drive alert.

"I've taken mine and laid it right on my dash so I can see it when I hop in my car," said Georgia Department of Transportation Commissioner Russell McMurry. "We've had hundreds sign up."

As of Thursday, there had been 1,032 deaths on Georgia roadways, compared to about 915 at this time last year, McMurry said. That's about a 13 percent increase. Nationally, motor vehicle-related fatalities are also up by about 14 percent.

Officials have attributed the increase to distracted driving.

