



April—May 2007
Volume 2, Issue 3

The TMA Group—Our Job is Getting You to Yours

VAN VOICES

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REPORT ACCIDENT CLAIMS IMMEDIATELY TO:

Synaxis Polk & Sullivan

615-385-8341

(Kay Biggs)

-and-

MiMi Lee

615-790-4005 or

After Hours:

615-517-6321

Van Voices is a publication of The TMA Group.

For more information about our services and programs, contact us: (615) 790-4005

The TMA Group

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Van Driving Safety—Did You Know?

Did you know that vans tend to be involved in collisions at a higher rate than passenger vans? The majority of accidents are due to: backing unsafely, stopping, and rollovers. The explanations below offer possible solutions.

Backing. Backing can be unsafe in vans due to visibility limitations that can occur, i.e. high windows that can cause large blind spots, and the need to use side mirrors in some cases. If possible, plan ahead so you don't have to back up. Park so you can pull forward when leaving. If this is not possible, then back into the parking space when arriving. Beware of blind areas. Make sure the mirrors are adjusted and clean. Don't back further than necessary and don't back where you cannot see.

Stopping. As when driving any vehicle, don't follow other vehicles too closely. In a van, a greater distance is necessary. Vans often don't have heavy-duty brakes and suspension

systems. Therefore, the distances needed for braking and stopping increases. The more weight on board you have the longer it takes to stop, and the same applies for speed.

Rollovers. Research has shown that vans and SUV's, given certain conditions, share a potential for rollover. With higher centers of gravity, the ability to carry more weight, and the added energy developed by weight and speed, avoid making sudden turning movements.

Other tips. A loaded van carries a lot of weight. When driving a van, reduce your risks. Make sure tires are inflated correctly and are in good shape. Make no sudden turns. Adjust the driver's seat, wear your seat belt, and strongly encourage riders to also buckle up. Adjust all mirrors properly. Do not carry more passengers than your van is designed to carry. Keep both hands on the steering wheel. Do not speed, at any time. Slow down before reaching

curves. Check road and weather conditions and adjust your speed accordingly.

BE SAFE ALWAYS, in all ways.

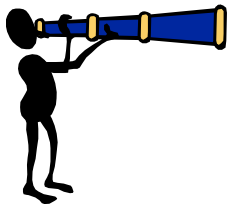


Thank you for making a difference by participating in The TMA Group's Vanpool program. Air Alert Season is May 1 through September 30. Your actions are helping us all breathe a little easier!



Never Be Stranded: The Emergency Ride Home Program

The commitment by employers and employees has been made to vanpool. For many commuters, participating in a vanpool means saving thousands of dollars each year. However, there is a concern about being stranded without having a ride. Enter the Emergency Ride Home (ERH) program that provides commuters who vanpool with a reliable ride home when life's unexpected emergencies arise. Vanpool riders are able to use ERH for personal emergencies and unscheduled overtime up to eight times a year. Best of all, The TMA Group has established contracts with Enterprise Rent-A-Car and American Taxi that make the ride home free. All vanpool riders who have signed a Rider Agreement are eligible for the program, and must have ridden in the vanpool on the day the request for a ride home is made. When an emergency arises the vanpool rider notifies The TMA Group of the emergency. The rider contacts the driver of the van for a ERH voucher, after which the rider contacts Enterprise Rent-A-Car or American Taxi.



BE ON THE LOOKOUT! The **VANCENTIVES REWARDS** have been mailed. Congratulations to all vanpool drivers and riders who received a reward! We appreciate your active participation in the program. Want to know more about the Vancentives Rewards Program and how you can earn rewards? Call MiMi at 615-628-0261.



Important TMA Van Matters

At all times keep proof of insurance and vehicle registration in the glove box of the van!



Van Maintenance Approval Process

ALL maintenance and repair items must receive prior approval for The TMA

before the work is authorized. The exceptions are:

- Oil changes
- Wipers
- Light bulbs

Vanpool Vacancies



Our latest information shows seats available on the following vans:

- ◆ Cool Springs – Downtown Nashville
Time: 7:30 am–4:00 pm
Call: Raouf Makrum
(615) 313-4873

LIVE IN SPRING HILL/THOMPSON STATION AND WORK IN DOWNTOWN NASHVILLE?

WANT TO VANPOOL TO WORK?

THE TMA GROUP WANTS TO START A VANPOOL IN THIS AREA – CALL MIMI FOR DETAILS

If you have vacant seats on your van contact MIMI Lee at 615-628-0261 or mimi@tmagroup.org

NEW MAILING ADDRESS FOR FARES

Beginning immediately, please send all monthly fares and correspondence to:

**The TMA Group
Post Office Box 266
Franklin, TN
37065**

