



**Bakersfield Composite Squadron #121**

**60-Second Safety Advisor #44**

### **Making up the Time by Driving Faster**

I'm sure that at one time or another, we have all left a little late to be able to reach our destination on time, and we try to make up the time by driving faster and more aggressively than usual. If you stop to think about the risk versus benefit of this behavior, you will see that it is smarter to just drive safe and arrive a little late. You might be really surprised to figure how little time you really save by driving faster over moderately short distances. It truly does calculate out to seconds or a couple of minutes. For instance, if you are traveling 10 miles, and you increase your speed from 60 mph to 75 mph (significantly higher safety risk), you will arrive a whole 2 and a half minutes earlier. Is the benefit (arriving a little over two minutes earlier) really worth the significant risk to your life and the life of others?

Another point, which you can prove for yourself quickly, comes from watching the progress of somebody who has passed you because of his feeling that you're going too slowly. Pick out a marker when that person passes it, and count the seconds until you reach it. Somebody really steaming down the road will pick up as much as five whole seconds in a mile, and maybe even 30 seconds in a trip of five or ten miles. Again, is it really worth the risk? One more thought - if you get pulled over to get a ticket, you will lose far more time (not to mention the money) than you might have saved by driving dangerously.

