

We Are The Motorcycle Riders Foundation:

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) provides leadership at the federal level for states' motorcyclists' rights organizations as well as motorcycle clubs and individual riders. The MRF is chiefly concerned with issues at the national and international levels that impact the freedom and safety of American street motorcyclists. The MRF is committed to being a national advocate for the advancement of motorcycling and its associated lifestyle and works in conjunction with its partners to help educate elected officials and policymakers in Washington and beyond.



Fast-Tracking Autonomous Vehicles

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) has growing concerns over recent actions by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to expedite the approval process for autonomous vehicles (AVs), particularly those lacking basic human driving controls such as steering wheels and brake pedals.

In a recent letter, NHTSA announced it will “streamline” the exemption process requiring manufacturers to seek federal approval before deploying self-driving vehicles. These standards have traditionally mandated that all vehicles include manual controls, which are a critical safeguard for human operation and accountability on public roads.

NHTSA Chief Counsel Peter Simshauser stated that under this new policy, the agency “anticipates reaching decisions on most exemption requests within months rather than years.” This announcement may open the door to the widespread deployment of AVs without fully understanding or addressing the potential risks these vehicles pose to all road users, including motorcyclists.

The MRF has long advocated for the rights and safety of motorcyclists in an evolving transportation landscape. The MRF believes that rigorous testing and transparent data sharing are the best methods to ensure AV systems are capable of safely sharing the road with all roadway users.

We recognize the potential benefits of autonomous technology, but not at the expense of human lives. Motorcyclists cannot be an afterthought in the race toward automation. For the future of road safety and the preservation of motorcyclists’ rights, we must ensure that innovation proceeds responsibly and inclusively.

READ NHTSA LETTER HERE

NHTSA Letter

Working together to build stronger and more effective
State Motorcyclists' Rights organizations!

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Pre-registration for conference through the MRF PO Box 9090, Peoria, IL 61612
Pre-registration (must be received by Sept. 10, 2025): \$100.00 (current member) / \$120.00 (non-member)
Registration rate after Sept. 10, 2025: \$110.00 (current member) / \$130.00 (non-member)
Registration includes all workshops, workshop materials, and Saturday banquet.
Registration questions call the MRF at 202-546-0983, or email Fred Harrell at fred@mrf.org.
*See registration form for details.

