



## Please Don't Cut the Cable

With each passing year, traffic numbers increase on Oklahoma's Interstates and highways. This increase also brings greater likelihood of cross-over accidents. Cross-median crashes, especially on high-speed roadways, often result in serious injury and fatalities.

Cable barriers, currently being installed statewide by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, have proven successful in preventing many cross-median collisions. These cables, though not invincible, can mean life saving protection to motorists.

## Keeping the *Cable* Intact

Cutting the cable barrier after a collision may seem logical, but may not be the best solution.

Remember these facts before you cut the cable:

- When cut, tension built up in the cable is released and can cause serious injury;
- **Never cut the cable** – only the turnbuckle. This will keep the cable intact;



- Tension can be released by loosening turnbuckles with a wrench;
- Cable is connected using metal turnbuckles every 1,000 feet (as shown);
- Released tension will create slack – the cable can then be moved;
- Cable is more effective when left intact – **cut only if absolutely necessary; the turnbuckle**;
- Cutting the cable will render the segment useless (or ineffective).



**Remember, cutting the cable is never an option!**  
Cut the turnbuckle only when absolutely necessary.

