



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

ANDERSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

SHERIFF PAUL N. WHITE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Traffic Safety Partnership To Reduce Fatalities

The Anderson County Sheriff's Department announces a concerted effort with area law enforcement agencies designed to combat traffic fatalities in East Tennessee. In a press conference held Friday at the Knoxville office of the Tennessee Highway Patrol, Steve Dillard, East Tennessee Law Enforcement Liaison Officer for the Governor's Highway Safety Office, reported an increase in fatalities last year in four East Tennessee counties – Anderson, Blount, Campbell, and Sevier. Mr. Dillard and GHSO Director Kendall Poole outlined joint traffic safety activities for the next six months in the four selected counties. The focal points during this period will be:

- Impaired Driving Enforcement
- Distracted Driving Enforcement
- Speed Limit Enforcement
- Seatbelt Enforcement

The Anderson County Sheriff's Department has partnered with GHSO, Tennessee Highway Patrol, Clinton Police Department, Lake City Police Department, Norris Police Department, Oak Ridge Police Department, and Oliver Springs Police Department to step up traffic safety efforts to reduce the number of fatalities in Anderson County. During the last five years Anderson County has averaged 11 fatal crashes per year, with 2012 increasing to 13 fatal crashes.

During the next six months the Anderson County Sheriff's Department, along with THP and all municipal law enforcement agencies within the county, will be conducting saturation patrols, sobriety checkpoints, seatbelt checkpoints, and selective traffic enforcement operations to address the four focal points. During this traffic safety campaign all departments will increase the number of officers working the streets during peak traffic hours. The department will also partner with GHSO to conduct specialty training in various traffic related areas to better equip our officers to serve the citizens of Anderson County.

This traffic safety campaign is supported by a grant from the Tennessee Department of Transportation, Governor's Highway Safety Office. Sheriff Paul White is excited to continue the relationship with GHSO and is thankful for their support.

For more information about traffic safety, please visit www.TrafficSafetyMarketing.gov.