OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
EDUCATION · SERVICE · PROTECTION

STATE HIGHWAY PATROL OHIO

BUCKEYE STATE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

OHIO ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

JOINING FORCES TO SAVE LIVES

August 6, 2010

Dear Law Enforcement Partner:

The Ohio Department of Public Safety joins the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police, the Buckeye State Sheriffs' Association, and the Ohio State Highway Patrol in thanking you for your past assistance and asking for your help in saving lives on Ohio's roadways. Although the state of Ohio experienced record low crash fatalities in 2009, fatalities are on the rise from last year and we are joining forces to ensure our families, friends and loved ones are safe on Ohio's roads.

As much as possible during these tough economic times, we are encouraging you to be aware of Ohio's traffic fatalities and, where warranted, to ramp up efforts and participate in high visibility efforts to reduce impaired driving, deter speeding, and increase the use of safety belts. Even just an increased presence on busy roadways or at high-crash locations can make a difference. We specifically encourage you to work with local media to highlight enforcement efforts such as impaired driving ***checkpoints and high- visibility enforcement***. These mechanisms are used as a ***deterrent*** to impaired driving. Coverage from the media on these efforts will ensure the message is out that we are taking impaired driving seriously and will be out in force to take offenders off the road. According to The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, ***well-publicized*** checkpoints and saturation patrols enhance the visibility of overall impaired driving enforcement efforts and contribute significantly to deterrence. Literature reviews show that checkpoints are associated with reductions in alcohol-related fatalities—a median decrease of 20 percent.

Please join public safety and law enforcement officials across the state to save lives on Ohio's roadways! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Stickrath, Director
Ohio Department of Public Safety

Coshocton Co. Sheriff Timothy Rogers, President
Buckeye State Sheriffs' Association

Miami Twp. Chief Steve Bailey, President
Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police

R. Steven Bailey

Colonel David W. Dicken, Superintendent
Ohio State Highway Patrol