



Huntington Beach Police Department

2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

(714) 960-8811

Robert Handy, Chief of Police

MEDIA ADVISORY

Sergeant S. Shepherd, Traffic Unit

Release Date/Time: April 19, 2016 2:30 p.m.

Subject: Motorcycle Safety Enforcement this weekend

Case Number: N/A

Details:

Careless motorists as well as riders get special scrutiny

The Huntington Beach Police Department will be conducting a specialized Motorcycle Safety Enforcement Operation on April 23rd, 2016, in an effort to lower deaths and injuries. Extra officers will be on duty patrolling areas frequented by motorcyclists and where motorcycle crashes occur. Officers will be looking for violations made by drivers and riders alike that can lead to motorcycle crashes. They will be cracking down on both those operating regular vehicles and motorcycles who are violating traffic safety laws.

Motorcycle fatalities jumped dramatically in California by over 28 percent from a decade low of 352 in 2010. In 2013, 453 motorcyclists lost their lives, which is at a 5 year high. California collision data reveals that primary causes of motorcycle-involved crashes include speeding, unsafe turning and impairment due to alcohol and other drugs by both riders and drivers alike.

Operations like this are aimed at curbing any more rises in motorcycle deaths and sending the numbers back downward. Over the course of the past 5 years, motorcycle involved collisions have resulted in 13 fatal crashes and 259 injury crashes.

Safety tips for riders – See and Be Seen:

- Ride with lights on during daylight hours
- Use your lane position to increase visibility; change lanes only when there is ample room
- Match your speed to surrounding traffic
- Always wear a DOT compliant helmet and brightly colored, protective clothing

Safety tips for drivers – Share the Road:

- Look twice for motorcyclists, especially when entering the roadway, turning or changing lanes
- Motorcyclist are allowed in HOV lanes unless prohibited by signage

Riders are urged to get training through the California Motorcyclist Safety Program. Information and training locations are available at <http://www.californiamotorcyclist.com/> or 1-877 RIDE 411 (1-877-743-3411).



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