



PRESS RELEASE

Sheriff's Office Provides Extra Patrol for Memorial Weekend

May 13, 2014--Washington County Sheriff's Deputies, in partnership with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and local law enforcement agencies will be on the roads providing extra patrol to enhance safety for this Memorial Day Holiday travel period.

The Washington County Sheriff's Office would like everyone to have a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day Holiday. The Memorial Day Holiday travel period is one of the most dangerous holidays for crashes due to heavily traveled roadways and aggressive drivers.

In addition to extra patrols focused on impaired driving over the holiday weekend, deputies will also focus on aggressive drivers. Sheriff's Deputies will be looking for drivers that are speeding, following too closely, and distracted drivers using mobile communication devices. Deputies will be out in force from May 18 through May 26, 2014.

Every Memorial Day Holiday weekend, Washington County Sheriff's Deputies respond to numerous traffic related incidents that could have been avoided if all drivers were safe and considerate. Deputies are reminding drivers to slow down, avoid distractions, allow adequate following distances, wear their seatbelt, and secure children in properly fitted child restraints.

Consistent vehicle passenger restraint use is the single most effective way to protect motor vehicle occupants from injury or death. ODOT reports that in 2013, 31% of all fatal crashes involved an improperly restrained or unrestrained driver or passenger. Washington County is in the high 90 percentile of consistent seatbelt use, the goal is 100% compliance.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recommendation for child passengers link is attached. <http://www.nhtsa.gov/Safety/CPS>

Please remember to be safe and considerate while enjoying the holiday.