



ROCKY WATSON, SHERIFF
TAD LEACH, UNDERSHERIFF

KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Media Release

The Kootenai County Sheriff's Department will be participating in an Aggressive Driving emphasis patrol sponsored by the Idaho Department of Transportation, Office of Highway Operations and Safety. From April 7 to April 18, 2011 Kootenai County Deputies will be conducting emphasis traffic patrols at various locations around the County, focusing on aggressive drivers to help reduce the number of injury accidents in our County.

Examples of driving patterns associated with aggressive driving include; speeding, failure to signal, following to close (tailgating), cutting in and out of traffic, failure to yield to merging traffic, stop sign violations, and disregarding signals and other signs.

Nationwide, speeding was a contributing factor in more than a third of all fatal crashes and more than 13,000 lives were lost in such crashes, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

- Over the last three years (2008-2010), 32% of all fatalities and 21% of all serious injuries resulted from speed-related crashes.
- Speed-related crashes are more likely to occur on rural roadways. Over the last three years, 81% of the fatal speed-related crashes occurred on rural roadways.
- Speed was a factor in 36% of all aggressive driving crashes, but was a factor in 72% of the fatal aggressive driving crashes.
- Speeding is an aggressive driving behavior that is consistently a contributing factor in more than one third of all fatal crashes across the state, according to ITD highway safety statistics.

The goal of the Kootenai County Sheriff's Department participation in the mobilization is to support the statewide highway safety goal of reducing motor vehicle related deaths and serious injuries by increasing the awareness of aggressive driving habits.

Please help us in our endeavors by making a conscious effort, focusing on good driving habits to reduce accidents.

Sheriff Rocky Watson

By Sergeant Kevin Smart
Patrol Traffic Sergeant
04-05-11