



**HANOVER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**NEWS RELEASE**  
**COLONEL DAVID R. HINES, SHERIFF**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Hanover County Top Ten Crash Locations**

Annually the Sheriff's Office conducts an analysis of traffic related fatalities and crashes and subsequently develops information campaigns and selective enforcement details that are intended to reduce the number of traffic related incidents and save lives.

In 2010 the Sheriff's Office investigated eight fatal crashes. One fatality occurred on private property. Five of the crashes were single vehicles crashes. All eight deaths were the direct result of either alcohol or speed. Lack of seat belt usage was a factor in three of the deaths.

As seen in the attached table, in 2010 a high frequency of crashes occurred on the major thoroughfares in Hanover County. The common cause of these crashes continues to be following too closely, followed by red light violations, improper lane changes, DUI, and fail-to-yield. As in previous years, the majority of crashes are occurring midday and during the evening hours between 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Overall traffic crashes throughout the county *dropped* 11.5% from 1,326 in 2009 to 1,174 in 2010. Injuries were *reduced* by 2.4%. Crashes in the top ten locations were also *reduced* by 3%.

For the past three years, the Sheriff's Office has conducted an aggressive drunk driving enforcement campaign. In that time 1,152 drunk drivers have been arrested. As a result of these efforts, the number of alcohol related crashes in 2010 *decreased* by 14.3% and injuries related to alcohol related crashes *decreased* by 16.6%. Unfortunately, the fatality rate remained the same as 2009, and DUI as a contributing factor continues to be a problem.

"The Sheriff's Office will continue to conduct our traffic safety enforcement with the purpose of making our roads safer," said Colonel David R. Hines. "The reductions in crashes and injuries in 2010 were encouraging; however, the loss of life was unacceptable and the number of crashes along our major thorough-fares continues at an unacceptable rate. While the Sheriff's Office traffic safety enforcement efforts have received state and national recognition during 2010, we are committed to seeking areas to improve. The Sheriff's Office will continue to raise awareness to address issues related to driver inattention and other traffic safety issues, conduct checkpoints, carry out seat belt enforcement campaigns, and maintain high visibility patrols in congested traffic areas."

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*"CONTINUING TO BE A PART OF, NOT APART FROM, THE COMMUNITY"*



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Top Ten Crash Locations (not including interstates)	
Mechanicsville Turnpike & Bell Creek South	25
Mechanicsville Turnpike & Lee Davis Road	16
Chamberlayne Ave. & Atlee Station Road	12
Mechanicsville Turnpike & Old Hickory Drive	10
Mechanicsville Turnpike & Elm Drive	8
Lee Davis Road & Cold Harbor Road	6
Pole Green Road & Bell Creek Road	6
Chamberlayne Ave. & Atlee Road	5
Mechanicsville Turnpike & Creighton Parkway	5
Mechanicsville Turnpike & Wynbrook Lane	5

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