



News Release

May 21, 2010

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CLICK-IT-OR-TICKET ENFORCEMENT WAVE, MEMORIAL DAY SOBRIETY CHECKPOINT AND DUI PATROLS

The Hanover County Sheriff’s Office will be participating in a series of *Traffic Checkpoints* and *Seat Belt Enforcement Patrols* during Virginia’s Click-It-or-Ticket Enforcement Wave (**May, 24th – June 4th, 2010**). In addition, the Sheriff’s Office will be conducting weekly DUI Patrols throughout the month of May followed by a *Sobriety Checkpoint* in Hanover on **Friday, May 28th**.

The exact times and locations are not being released. Officers will stop all vehicles passing through each checkpoint. Each driver will be advised of the purpose of the checkpoint and requested to present their drivers’ license. Any driver suspected of operating a vehicle while under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be directed to a safe area off of the roadway for further observation and possible testing for intoxication.

Statistics from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles indicate there is an increase in intoxicated drivers and alcohol-related traffic crashes around holidays. Although some head way has been made in reducing the number of intoxicated drivers, an increase in the death rate and the average blood alcohol content of tested drunk drivers indicates significantly more progress is needed.

The maximum penalty in Virginia for the first conviction of driving under the influence is 12 months in jail, a \$2500 fine and a 12 – month suspension of driving privileges.

Hanover County Traffic Data	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Vehicle Crashes	1454	1324	1425	1360	1326
Alcohol Related Crashes	140	147	114	131	112
Alcohol Related Crashes With Injuries	59	77	54	66	48
Persons Injured In Alcohol Related Crashes	83	109	73	93	55
Fatality Crashes	7	11	17	6	8
Alcohol Related Fatalities	3	3	2	4	2
DUI Arrests	337	294	292	398	402

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