

NEWS RELEASE



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CASE NUMBER: N/A

DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT: July 4, 5 & 6, 2008 – Varied Shifts

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: July 2, 2008 – 4:58 p.m.

NATURE OF STORY: Saturation Patrol – 4th of July Weekend

LOCATION: Lane County

DETAILS: Lane County Sheriff's Office Traffic Safety Team deputies, in cooperation with the Oregon State Police, will be conducting a saturation patrol July 4-6, 2008. This saturation patrol will focus on county roads and state highways throughout Lane County to include the McKenzie Highway, Highway 126 West, Beltline Highway and various rural Lane County roadways. Funds from the Multi Unit Traffic Team Grant, a grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation, will be used to fund patrols for the Sheriff's Office.

The Sheriff's Office expects an increase in public use of Lane County roadways, state highways, county and state parks with the increase to our local population due to the Olympic Trials. Motorists are encouraged to drive safely and to use designated drivers at functions where alcohol is being consumed.

Deputies and Troopers will be conducting this patrol due to the increase in traffic on Lane County roads and state highways during the 4th of July holiday weekend. This patrol will focus on Minors In Possession of alcohol, DUII, open container violations, speed racing, speeding, following too close, driving uninsured, failure to use safety belts and other traffic safety violations.

According to ODOT statistics from the 2004 – 2006 Oregon Traffic Crash Summary, Lane County's top three collision roadways were McKenzie Highway, Highway 126 West and Beltline Highway. ODOT statistics were used to secure funds for the Multi Unit Traffic Team grant from NHTSA.

The purpose of the Multi Agency Traffic Team Grant is to provide enforcement on targeted Lane County roadways that have frequent traffic collisions and traffic fatalities. The intent of this saturation patrol is to provide an increased presence to deal with DUII drivers and address traffic safety issues.

For additional information contact: Sergeant Fred Swank, 682-4150

Prepared by: Sergeant Fred Swank