

reporter

TENNESSEE TRAFFIC SAFETY

January - March 2007

PREPARE FOR PROM & GRADUATION WITH SAFETY IN MIND

This time of year is a joyful one with so many of our teens preparing for prom and graduation. But there is more to preparing for the prom or graduation than buying a dress and renting a tuxedo. There is the issue of safety for those teens that will be on the road in the early morning hours. Teen car crashes remain the leading cause of permanent injury and fatalities, and many fear prom and graduation evenings as the evenings of the greatest risk.

Keeping our teens safe is about making responsible choices-not only on prom and graduation nights but all year long. It's also about parents talking to their

teens about the danger of underage drinking and drug-taking and driving safely.

Smart decisions aren't always the easiest or the most obvious. Below are some tips to help make your teen's prom or graduation celebration a safe one.

Prom and Graduation Celebration Tips

- Make sure your teen has a plan for the evening and that you know the plan.
- If your teen is driving, check the brakes, fluids, and tires.
- Tell your teen not to drink and drive and lead by example.
- Limit the number of passengers your teen is allowed to transport.

- Take stock of the alcohol in your home.
- If you're using a limousine service-allow no booze or drugs. Ask parents and passengers to sign a contract allowing the driver to phone the parents if alcohol or drugs are detected.
- Work with the school or a post-prom party host to have food, activities, and a safe "no alcohol/drug" place for the teens to gather afterwards (Remember it's illegal to serve alcohol to young people under the age of 21 in your home or anywhere else).
- Communicate with other parents and school officials.
- Insist that your teen and his/her passengers wear a seat belt and again lead by example.
- Parents remember to enforce the rules that you set.
- Teens remember to follow the plans you made with your parents.

We hope you have a memorable and safe celebration. ■

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE!

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High Visibility Grants Achieve Remarkable Results

by Kendell Poole, GHSO Director

Preliminary data gathered from High Visibility Grants have shown a substantial decrease in fatalities over previous years. 321 grants are funded up to \$5,000 each for a total of \$1.6 million in funding. These grants are federally funded through the Tennessee Governor's Highway Safety Office.

High visibility law enforcement grants have achieved measurable results because law enforcement agencies make a concerted effort to conduct and participate in sobriety checkpoints, partner with law enforcement liaison networks, and are involved in other activities that promote highway safety. Each agency submits data including



number of hours officers participate, number of citations and arrests for DUI, seatbelts, speed and misdemeanor and felony charges. The data collected is transferred to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Director Kendell Poole, Governor's Highway Safety Office stated, "These high visibility law enforcement grants will translate into lives saved. These grants will make a difference for the day to day safety of Tennesseans." ■

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 2007

TN Lifesaver's Conference and the TN Law Enforcement Challenge
August 15-17, 2007

Conference Details will be available soon on our website at <http://www.tntrafficsafety.org>

New Law Enforcement Liaison Middle Tennessee Region

Beginning March 1, 2007 Scott Diehl will assume responsibilities for the Middle Tennessee Region as Law Enforcement Liaison. Middle Tennessee consists of 23 counties and 2 THP Districts.

Scott has been a member of the Martin Police Department since 2003 and has served as District Coordinator with the Governor's Highway Safety Office since 2004. Scott has specialized in DUI enforcement while with the Martin Police Department and is a Standardized Field Sobriety Testing

Instructor and an In-Car Video Camera Instructor.

Prior to entering law enforcement Scott was an assistant rodeo coach with the UT Martin Agriculture Department, and served in the U.S. Navy as an Avionics Electrician on the F-14 Tom Cats.

Scott is replacing Jerry Tucker who has taken a new position within the Governor's Highway Safety Office as Training Coordinator.

You can reach Scott at 731-587-3771. ■

East TN Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Inspection Locations

Bristol Police Dept. - For info contact: Preston Bowers @ 423-989-3153. Regular checkpoint at Jay Johnson Toyota in Bristol.

Hamilton County Health Dept. - Chattanooga. For info contact: Christy Smith @ 423-209-8204. Inspections Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. by appointment.

Crossville Police Dept.- For info contact: Lt. Fred Sherill @ 931-484-7231. By appointment or as needed. Monthly scheduled checkpoints w/ Health Dept.

Safe Kids of Knoxville, Knoxville Police Dept, and Knox Co Sheriff Dept. - For info contact: Safe Kids @ 865-215-5175 or Knoxville Police Dept. @ 865-215-8633.

a. 1st Saturday of the month - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Beaty Chevrolet - Parkside Drive. Inspections by appointments.

b. 2nd Saturday of the month - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Rusty Wallace Honda located off I-75 at Callahan Rd. Inspections first come, first served.

Knoxville Fire Dept.- 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.(noon) - 4th Monday of each month. Firestation #18 on Weisgarber Rd. off I-40/I-75. Inspections first come, first served.

Elizabethton Police Dept.- For info contact: Shannon Peters @ 423-542-4141. Inspections as requested.

Safe and Sound/TC Children's Hospital - Chattanooga. For info contact: Becky Campbell @ 423-778-6691. Inspections by appointment.

Cumberland County Health Dept. - Crossville. For info contact: Ruth Lucas @ 931-484-6196 x 1014. Inspections by appointment. Scheduled checkpoints also conducted twice a month with the Police Dept., please call for details.

Roane County Juvenile Court - Kingston. For info contact: Lori Heidle @ 865-717-4165. Inspections by appointment.

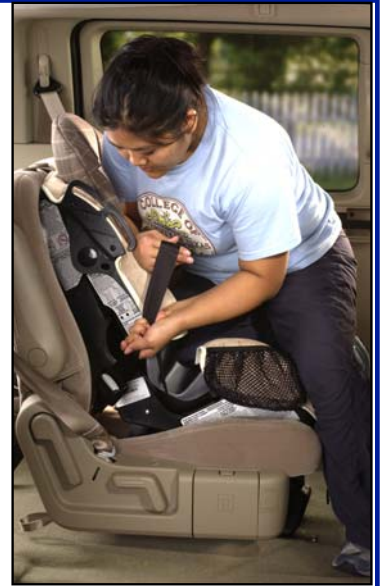
Collegedale Police Dept. - For info contact: Jim Hardeman @ 423-396-3135. Inspections as requested.

Sevierville Police Dept. - For info contact: Rebecca Cowan @ 865-453-5507. Monthly inspections @ Larry Hill Pontiac in Sevierville and Thomas Hill Burgin Chrysler Jeep Dodge in Kodak. Please call Sevierville Police Dept. or visit TTSRS website calendar for more detailed info.

Polk County Health Dept. - a. Benton - For info contact: Malissa Davis @ 423-338-4533. Inspections as requested.
b. Copper Basin - For info contact: Cindy Trantham @ 423-496-3275. Inspections as requested.

Bradley Co. Health Dept. - Cleveland. For info contact: Laura Moore @ 423-728-7020 ext. 121. Inspections every 3rd Thursday from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

For more information on these inspection locations, please call the Child Passenger Safety Technicians listed above or visit the TN Traffic Safety Resource Service website at <http://www.tntrafficsafety.org> ■



GHSO Training 2007 Calendar: April, May and June

April 2007

- Advanced Traffic Crash Investigation
- Computerized Collision Diagramming
- Electronic Traffic Crash Reporting
- Officer Spanish Communication I & II
- Standardized Child Passenger Safety Training
- Standardized Child Passenger Safety Recert.
- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing
- Verbal Judo Basic

May 2007

- At-Scene Traffic Crash Investigation
- Advanced Standardized Field Sobriety Testing
- Basic Radar Operator
- Electronic Traffic Crash Reporting
- Officer Spanish Communication I & II
- Officer Spanish Communication III
- Standardized Child Passenger Safety Training
- Standardized Child Passenger Safety Recert.
- STOPS Instructor
- Verbal Judo Basic
- Vehicular Homicide for Prosecutors

June 2007

- At-Scene Traffic Crash Investigation
- Advanced Standardized Field Sobriety Testing
- Computerized Collision Diagramming
- Electronic Traffic Crash Reporting
- Legislative Update & Symposium for Sheriffs, Police Chiefs and Prosecutors
- Officer Spanish Communication I & II
- Officer Spanish Communication III
- Standardized Child Passenger Safety Training
- Standardized Child Passenger Safety Recert.
- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing
- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Instructor
- STOPS Instructor
- Verbal Judo Basic

For a specific course description, date and location, please visit the TN Traffic Safety Resource website at : www.tntrafficsafety.org and click on GHSO 2006-2007 Training. ■



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For more information on TTSRS or to submit comments or suggestions contact:

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GOVERNOR'S HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE

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