



NEWS RELEASE

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FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL PARTNERS WITH ALABAMA TO TAKE BACK OUR HIGHWAYS

~ Troopers from 5 states unite to target dangerous drivers~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – The Florida Highway Patrol’s Northern Region is teaming up with the Alabama Department of Public Safety and the Georgia State Patrol for a joint initiative to reduce traffic fatalities while increasing safety.

During the week of July 27 through July 31, 2009, FHP will increase patrols on the roads throughout this region as a part of the multi-state safety campaign called “Take Back Our Highways.” The campaign includes Alabama and her border states of Florida, Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee, and will result in an increased number of law enforcement officers on the road.

“The goal of this effort is to save lives by targeting aggressive and dangerous drivers throughout the region,” Director of FHP, Col. John Czernis said. “If you are breaking any of our traffic laws, you can expect to meet a state trooper.”

During the week-long enforcement period, FHP will use all available personnel, including members of its Aviation Section, Contraband Interdiction teams and Special Programs, as well as Auxiliary and Reserve troopers to focus on aggressive drivers, impaired drivers, speeders, and drivers who fail to buckle up.

“Every time you get behind the wheel, you have a responsibility that must be taken seriously. All drivers and passengers should buckle up, pay attention to speed limits and avoid distractions to drive safely,” adds Chief Grady Carrick, Commander of the Northern Region. “This multi-state campaign yields results, and we are proud to join Alabama and her border states in this partnership.”

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provides highway safety and security through excellence in service, education and enforcement. The Department is leading the way to a safer Florida through the efficient and professional execution of its core mission: the issuance of driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and operation of the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV and the services offered, visit www.flhsmv.gov.

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