



## NEWS RELEASE

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### FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL AMPS UP ENFORCEMENT DURING LABOR DAY WEEKEND

*~ Florida Highway Patrol increases number of troopers on the road to deter crashes~*

**TALLAHASSEE, FL** - The Florida Highway Patrol will enhance enforcement during the Labor Day holiday weekend, which begins today and extends through Sept. 7. The Labor Day holiday caps off the summer season for many, and historically we see an increase in travel with people driving to celebrate with friends and family. During the four-day period, the FHP is participating in *Operation C.A.R.E.* (Combined Accident Reduction Effort), which involves all 50 state police and highway patrol organizations across the United States.

In addition to the holiday specific enforcement, the Patrol continues to actively enforce Florida's Move Over Law and to participate in the national *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.* campaign. All efforts this weekend focus on saving lives, preventing injuries, and mitigating property damage associated with traffic crashes.

"The Florida Highway Patrol will beef up our forces and partner with law enforcement agencies across the state this weekend to remind drivers that attentive and safe driving prevent crashes and save lives," said FHP Director, Colonel John Czernis. "We encourage drivers to drive smart, drive safe, and drive courteously."

All uniformed FHP personnel, including those normally assigned to administrative duties, will patrol interstates and other major state roads throughout the four-day holiday period. FHP Auxiliary and Reserve troopers also will volunteer to augment the Patrol this weekend. The strategy aims to increase the Patrol's presence throughout Florida in an effort to deter traffic violations and to enhance services to motorists who break down while traveling or who need other assistance. Please remember to dial \*FHP (\*347) from your cell phone to contact FHP to report an aggressive driver or to request roadside assistance.

The Patrol also reminds motorists that Florida's new primary safety belt law authorizes law enforcement officers to stop and cite motorists solely for failure to buckle up.

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