



Huntington Beach Police Department

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Robert Handy, Chief of Police

Media Advisory

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Subject: Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Enforcement

Case Number: N/A

Details:

The Huntington Beach Police Department will conduct a pedestrian and bicycle safety enforcement operation on Wednesday, January 21, 2015 between the hours of 6:30 am and 1:00 pm, with focused enforcement on collision causing factors involving motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

Extra officers will be on duty patrolling areas where bicycle and pedestrian traffic crashes occur in an effort to lower deaths and injuries. Officers will be looking for violations made by drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians alike that can lead to life changing injuries. Special attention will be directed toward drivers speeding, making illegal turns, failing to stop for signs and signals, failing to yield to pedestrians in cross walks or any other dangerous violation.

Additionally, enforcement will be taken for observed violations when pedestrians cross the street illegally or fail to yield to drivers who have the right of way. Bike riders will be stopped and citations issued when they fail to follow the same traffic laws that apply to motorists. All riders are reminded to always wear a helmet – those under 18 years of age must wear helmets by law. Pedestrians should cross the street only in marked crosswalks or at corners.

Bicycle and pedestrian fatalities are rising in California as more people use these non-motorized means of transportation. Locally, the Huntington Beach Police Department has investigated 174 injury collisions and 9 fatal collisions involving pedestrians and bicyclists during 2014.

Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.