October 17-23, 2021 is National Teen Driver Safety Week

As part of National Teen Driver Safety Week (October 17-23), the Huntington Beach Police Department wants to remind parents and guardians the importance of talking to their teens about driving responsibly and safely.

Driving remains the most dangerous activity for teens. Per mile driven, teen drivers are nearly four times as likely to be involved in a collision compared to drivers in all other age groups. According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS), speeding was a factor in 43% of all teen driver and passenger fatalities from 2015 to 2019, compared to approximately 30% of all traffic deaths among adults 20 and older.

The Huntington Beach Police Department offers the following tips to parents and guardians for starting conversations about safe driving with teens:

- **Provisional Driver's License**: Learn about California’s provisional licensing law, which places restrictions on passengers and driving at night during the first year they have a license.
- **Lead by example**: Have driving sessions with your teen. Tell, but also show your teen how to drive safely.
- **Set ground rules**: Be firm on rules such as no phone use, being distracted by friends, always following the speed limit, and always buckling up.
- **Sober driving**: Emphasize the importance of never driving under the influence or riding with someone who has been drinking.

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