



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

PRESS RELEASE

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Improving Motorcycle Safety Aim of San Diego Police Department Operation

Careless motorists as well as riders get special scrutiny

The San Diego Police Department will be conducting a specialized Motorcycle Safety Enforcement Operation on May 10, 2014 in an effort to lower deaths and injuries. Additional officers will be on duty patrolling areas frequented by motorcyclists and where motorcycle crashes occur. Officers will be looking for violations made by drivers and riders alike that can lead to motorcycle crashes. Officers will be cracking down on those operating vehicles and motorcycles who are under the influence of drugs or alcohol, those who may be speeding, making illegal turns, or any other dangerous violations.

Motorcycle fatalities saw a phenomenal drop of 37 percent from 2008 to 2010, but rose nearly 18 percent in 2011. Operations like this are aimed at curbing rises in motorcycle deaths, and at trending the numbers downward.

California collision data reveals that primary causes of motorcycle-involved crashes include speeding, unsafe turning, and impairment due to alcohol and other drugs. The San Diego Police Department is also reminding all motorists to always be alert and watch out for motorcycles, especially when turning and changing lanes.

As the economy turns upward, there will likely be more miles driven by all vehicles, plus more novice motorcycle riders who are untrained and unable to handle the power of today's motorcycles. The message to all drivers and motorcyclists is: share in the responsibility and do your part by safely "sharing the road." Riders can get training through the California Motorcyclist Safety Program. Information and training locations are available at www.CA-msp.org or 1-877 RIDE 411 or 1-877-743-3411.

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