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NATURE OF STORY:  Grants Fund Traffic Patrols around the Labor Day Holiday

DETAILS:

The Lane County Sheriff's Office is using grant funding from the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Oregon State Sheriffs’ Association to provide overtime patrols around the Labor Day holiday with a focus on traffic and life safety. These patrols, which began on August 16th and will run through September 2nd, would not be possible without the grant funding. This saturation patrol effort is in conjunction with a nation-wide effort to reduce drunk and impaired driving and reduce the number of injuries and deaths from vehicle crashes.

Deputies working overtime funded by this grant are focusing on DUII detection and apprehension, aggressive driving, and seat belt use enforcement including the use of child safety seats. The Oregon Department of Transportation reported that 23.7% of injured passengers in Oregon crashes in 2017 were children ages 0 – 14. As of May, 2017, Oregon law requires children less than 2 years of age to be in a rear facing child seat.

The Lane County Sheriff’s Office wants to remind motorists to buckle up, drive safely and drive sober. With the passage of Oregon’s marijuana laws, this is also a reminder of the impairment marijuana creates in drivers, impacting their ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. DUII applies to drivers under the influence of marijuana, as it does with alcohol.

For more information on 2017 crashes in Oregon, visit

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