

## **NEWS RELEASE**



**Russ E. Burger, Sheriff**  
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**CASE NUMBER:** N/A

**DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT:** May 18 & 19, 2007.

**DATE/TIME OF RELEASE:** May 17, 2007 @ 4:30 p.m.

**NATURE OF STORY:** Saturation Patrol Rhododendron Festival

**LOCATION:** Western Lane County

**DETAILS:** Deputies from the Lane County Sheriffs Office Traffic Safety Team in cooperation with the Oregon State Police and the Florence Police will be conducting a saturation patrol of Western Lane County. Funds from the Multi Agency Traffic Team Grant, a grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation, will be used to fund patrols for the Sheriffs Office and the Florence Police. Oregon State Troopers will be working on DUII enforcement overtime during this saturation patrol.

Deputies, Troopers and Officers will be conducting this patrol due to the increase in traffic on Western Lane County roads due to the Rhododendron Festival. This patrol will focus on Minors In possession of alcohol, DUII, Open Container Violations, Speeding, Following Too Close, Driving Uninsured, Failure to use safety belts and other traffic safety violations. Deputies will also assist the Lane County Forest Patrol Deputies with enforcement in the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area.

The purpose of the Multi Agency Traffic Team Grant is to provide enforcement on targeted Lane County Roadways that have frequent traffic collisions and traffic fatalities. The intent of this saturation patrol is to provide an increased presence to deal with DUII drivers and address traffic safety issues.

According to ODOT statistics from the 2006 Oregon Traffic Crash Summary, Lane County had 3,636 documented traffic collisions. Of these collisions 1,934 resulted in injuries, 2,221 resulted in property damage and 40 people died on Lane County Roadways.

**For additional information contact:** Sergeant Fred Swank, 682-2030.  
**Prepared by:** Sergeant Fred Swank.