



## MEDIA ALERT

**Ford Motor Company Fund, Governors Highway Safety Association, Westfield Insurance, and the Ohio Department of Public Safety bring**  
***Ford Driving Skills for Life Hands-On Teen Safe Driving Program to Columbus***

**Who:**

Over 400 teens ages 15 -19 in the Columbus area who have a valid driver's license or learner's permit.

**What:**

Teen drivers will learn advanced safe-driving skills from some of the nation's top professional driving instructors **in real automobiles**. The course will take teens through the dangerous realities of reckless driving, speeding, maneuvering around obstacles in the road, skid control, recovery and in-car hazards. The specially equipped course and vehicles will let the teen drivers experience the worst the road has to offer in a controlled and safe environment.

**When:**

**Press Conference**

Thursday, June 17

10:30 AM

- Jim Graham, Ford Fund
- Jani Davis, Westfield Insurance
- Thomas Stickrath, Director, Ohio Department of Public Safety
- Colonel David W. Dicken, Superintendent of the Ohio State Highway Patrol
- Richard Birt, 2009-2010 Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) National Student of the year.

**Driving Sessions**

Thursday, June 17 AND Friday, June 18

Session times each day:

Session 1: 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Session 2: 12:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m

**Where:**

Ohio Expo Center  
717 East 17th Avenue  
Columbus, Ohio 43211

**Why:**

**Vehicle crashes are the number one killer of teenagers in America — claiming nearly 6,000 teen lives each year.**

Because of figures like these, Ford Motor Company Fund, Governors Highway Safety Association and a panel of safety experts developed *Ford Driving Skills for Life*. This comprehensive program focuses on teaching skills necessary for safe driving and often not fully understood by new drivers.

The Ohio *Ford Driving Skills for Life* program is the result of a partnership between Ford Motor Company Fund, Governors Highway Safety Association, Westfield Insurance and the Ohio Department of Public Safety.

**For more information, please contact:**

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