



MEDIA RELEASE

Criminal Justice Services

Ohio Criminal Justice Services • Karhlton F. Moore, Executive Director
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OCJS ANNOUNCES U.S. ROUTE 33 CORRIDOR ENFORCEMENT PROJECT

Multi-jurisdictional traffic safety effort to include Indiana and Ohio Drug Task Forces

(COLUMBUS) – Law enforcement agencies from Indiana and Ohio, including drug and OVI task forces funded by the Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS), have joined together to participate in a high-intensity enforcement effort along the U.S. Route 33 corridor.

OCJS, a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS), is coordinating the corridor enforcement project. The project is aimed at reducing injuries and fatalities through high-visibility enforcement and will begin on Nov. 23 at noon and will conclude Nov. 27 at 9 p.m. During this period, more than 30 participating agencies will patrol the corridor, concentrating on safety issues like impaired driving, speed and aggressive driving and seat belt use.

U.S. Route 33 runs more than 247 miles in Ohio through 10 counties from Van Wert to Meigs County. During the five-year period from 2006 to 2010, there were 42 fatal crashes and 291 incapacitating injury crashes on the route. Further study of crashes along the corridor shows 11,010 crashes involving alcohol (322), speed (1,329), or no restraint used (522).

“We know that enforcement and education are critical to addressing traffic safety issues,” said OCJS Executive Director Karhlton Moore. “Our goal is to coordinate efforts to make sure every motorist is aware that law enforcement will be out in force across the entire route to ensure everyone drives safely.”

Agencies participating in the project include: the Ohio State Highway Patrol; Marysville Police Department; Dublin Police Department; Perry Twp. Police Department; Upper Arlington Police Department; Franklin County Sheriff’s Office; Columbus Division of Police; Madison Twp. Police Department; Fairfield County Sheriff’s Office; Lancaster Police Department; Hocking County Sheriff’s Office; Logan Police Department; Hilliard Police Department; Nelsonville Police Department; Athens Police Department; Pomeroy Police Department; Grandview Heights Police Department; Bellefontaine Police Department; Logan County Sheriff’s Office; Russell’s Point Police Department; Auglaize County Sheriff’s Office; Wapakoneta Police Department; St. Marys Police Department; Mercer County Sheriff’s Office; Rockford Police Department and Van Wert County Sheriff’s Office. OCJS-funded drug task forces are also partnering in this effort, including: West Central Drug Task Force; Grand Lake Drug Task Force; Fairfield-Hocking Drug Task Force; Franklin County Drug Task Force; and Meigs County Drug Task Force.

OCJS works to save lives and reduce injuries on Ohio’s roads by coordinating and funding OVI and Drug Task Forces and grants for local law enforcement and safety partners to combat impaired and unsafe driving. OCJS also promotes educational programs, coalition-building efforts and campaigns focused on highway safety through guidance from The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). NHTSA is encouraging states to coordinate law enforcement and educational efforts that pool resources to target corridors like U.S. Route 33.

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