



Elk Grove Police Department

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ELK GROVE POLICE COMMENCE SPECIAL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

ELK GROVE, CA – More traffic enforcement and safer streets are coming to Elk Grove beginning this month thanks to a recent \$172,000 grant awarded by the California Office of Traffic Safety. New accident reconstruction equipment, new speed radars and increased special traffic enforcement measures are on tap for the Elk Grove Police Department as law enforcement continues their commitment to keeping our roadways safe through both enforcement and education.

“The Elk Grove Police Department is very fortunate to have been awarded this grant,” said Robert Lehner, Elk Grove Police Chief. “Through a combination of education and enforcement, we expect to see a reduction in the number of impaired drivers on the roadways.”

The Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) grant is to assist in efforts to deal with increased traffic safety problems and reduce the number of persons killed and injured in traffic collisions. The grant activities will specifically target Motorcycle Safety, DUI offenders, drivers with suspended or revoked licenses, illegal street racing, red light running, and seatbelt violations. This will be done through the use of DUI/driver’s license checkpoints and special enforcement operations.

The grant also provides funding for new accident reconstruction equipment, new speed radars and overtime to conduct special enforcement activities.

“Every driver and every motorcyclist must get back to the basics: drive sober, always drive or ride safely, buckle up and we will save lives. It’s just that simple,” said Christopher J. Murphy, Director of the Office of Traffic Safety. “This grant will help make Elk Grove just that much safer of a place to live and work.”

New this year is the addition of 2 special Motorcycle Safety Enforcement Operations. Motorcycle fatalities have been on the rise in California, increasing 175 percent statewide in the last decade, from 204 killed in 1998 to 560 killed in 2008.

Elk Grove Police Officers will be conducting specialized enforcement efforts throughout the course of the next year. Extra officers will be on duty patrolling areas frequented by motorcycles. Officers will be cracking down on traffic violations made by motorcyclists, and other vehicle drivers, that result in far too many motorcycle collisions, injuries and deaths.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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