



SAFETY



Education & Outreach ~ Safety Work Program ~ Industrial Health & Safety

April - June 2024

Operation Spring *into* Safety



District One Safety Office partnered with Lee County Sheriff's Office to present Southwest Florida's largest highway safety and touch-a-truck event in Estero, Florida on April 13, 2024. Read more on page 2.

Operation Spring into Safety

Through a partnership between the Florida Department of Transportation District One and the Lee County Sheriff's Office, the inaugural traffic safety

and touch-a-truck event was held at the Hertz Arena in Estero, Florida on April 13th.



Children of all ages had the opportunity to see, explore, and learn about more than 50 pieces of heavy equipment used to build roads and bridges, law enforcement vehicles including mobile command centers, police vehicles, helicopters, and emergency response vehicles such as ambulances and fire trucks.

In addition to the large construction and emergency response vehicles, attendees had the opportunity to talk with highway safety advocates and the children had the chance to test their bicycle safety skills at a Bike Rodeo.

More than 200 volunteers from 24 organizations helped ensure this event was a success. We thank you!



Lee County Sheriff Carmine Marceno receives a Law Enforcement Award from Safety Administrator Keith Robbins, for his support of Operation Spring into Safety.



Message from Dr. Keith Robbins Safety Administrator

District One Safety Office communicates through a variety of channels to promote safety messages. We use the D1 Safety Sharepoint portal to share safety resources, meeting calendar and other information about what is happening in the District. We also meet in person at professional association meetings and conferences, with peers and community leaders to discuss safety projects, and local residents at public meetings and workshops. Last year, the Safety Office added a dedicated website to increase our outreach to our external stakeholders.

We are now publishing the Safety Shoutout newsletter quarterly so we can share information in a timely manner. In this issue you will find news about outreach & educational events for road users of all ages, safety and maintenance teams making a difference throughout the District, training efforts, and safety projects.

The theme of teamwork and partnership is prevalent throughout this newsletter. The Safety Office has cultivated partnerships with individuals and organizations who join us in our effort to tackle the complex challenge of reducing fatal and serious injuries for all road users. We certainly achieve more than we could alone, and we are grateful for all of our partners: law enforcement, coalition partners, civic leaders, Community Traffic Safety Teams, and volunteers.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dr. K. Robbins".



TEAM SPOTLIGHT: Manatee Operations Maintenance Team

Manatee Operations Field Crew were spotted along State Road 64 in Bradenton clearing a drainage area and repairing a pedestrian handrail that was damaged when it was struck by a unknown vehicle.

In preparation for the rainy season, the crew removed the debris and weed growth in the drainage area to promote safe drainage.



Amy Ao Named *Young Engineer of the Year*



District One's Bicyclist & Pedestrian Safety Specialist, Amy Ao, was named Young Engineer of the Year by the Florida Engineering Society, Ridge Chapter.

Amy joined the District One team in January 2020 and she is responsible for safety-related bicycle and pedestrian items, including high crash locations for bicycle and pedestrians. Learn more about Amy's projects on page 5.

Young Engineer of the Year Amy Ao with Ed Ponce, HNTB Corp, Associate Vice President

Internal Training: Active Shooter

District One's Industrial Health and Safety Team coordinated Active Shooter training with local law enforcement partners at various locations throughout the District.

Warning Signs. One key objective of active shooter training is learn about warning signs that may precede an active shooter incident, such as aggressive behavior, threats of violence, or fascination with firearms. Early reporting of concerning behaviors can help prevent potential incidents before they escalate.

How to Respond. Another objective of active shooter training is teaching individuals how to respond if they find themselves in an active shooter situation. This typically involves the "Run, Hide, Fight" protocol, which is widely promoted by law enforcement agencies.

Run. Individuals should first attempt to escape the area if it is safe to do so.

Hide. If escape is not possible, they should find a secure place to hide, silence their phones, and barricade the door if possible.

Fight. As a last resort, individuals are encouraged to take action against the shooter, using any available objects as improvised weapons

Be prepared. While the hope is that no one will ever have to use the skills learned in active shooter training, the reality is that being prepared can make a crucial difference in the outcome of such a situation. Active shooter training plays a vital role in enhancing safety by providing individuals with the knowledge, skills and mindset needed to respond effectively.

The Industrial Health & Safety Team also provides *Stop the Bleed* Tourniquet training. This training is key to stopping people from bleeding out from traumatic injuries such as stabbings, gunshot wounds, or work-related injuries.



Manatee Sheriff's Office provided active shooter training at the Manatee Operations Center on May 8th. Other locations for training include Bartow, Fort Myers, and Heartland area.



Scan the QR Code for an informative training video offered by the FBI or visit <https://youtu.be/TeOdxKozra0>



Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety Efforts



Last year in Florida, 8,413 people were injured in a crash while riding a bicycle and of those 228 were killed. Over 10,000 people were injured while walking and 783 pedestrians were killed in crashes. (Source: Florida Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles)

Creating safer environments for pedestrians and cyclists is a priority for the District One Safety Office. One way to help reduce crashes involving pedestrians and bicyclists is the installation of Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons (PHBs). PHBs enhance pedestrian safety and reduce the number of crashes by providing a controlled crossing point at locations where Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) or traditional traffic signals may not be warranted. PHBs alert drivers to the presence of pedestrians or bicyclists, reducing the risk of crashes.



Photo by John Kubicki

Bicyclist crossing Cortez Rd using the PHB signal.

District One activated 12 PHBs throughout the district in 2023:

- Three (3) PHBs along US 41 in Collier County
- Three (3) PHBs at Gulfstream roundabout in Sarasota County
- Five (5) PHBs along Cleveland Ave in the City of Ft Myers, Lee County
- One (1) PHB at US 17 near Hyland Ave in City of Winter Haven, Polk County

Did You Know?

In a recent before-and-after study of the PHB signals on Cortez Road, the results showed a **63% decrease in fatal and serious injury crashes.**

By changing the context, speeds, and feel for the roadway, ALL crashes were reduced by 20% on the corridor.

"Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons play a crucial role in creating safer streets for everyone," said Amy Ao, Bicyclist & Pedestrian Safety Specialist.

"By enhancing visibility and awareness, they contribute significantly to reducing crashes and promoting active transportation."

Will people cross at the PHBs?

Yes. During a 12-hour period, 624 people were observed crossing Cortez Rd. Of those, 41% of the people used the PHBs, and another 50% crossed at the signalized intersection. Only 9% crossed without using a marked or designated crossing location.

FDOT Partners with Virginia Tech Transportation Institute

SCRIM Testing

Through a Federal Highway Administration Pilot Program, the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute's SCRIM (Sideway-Force Coefficient Routine Investigation Machine) operated in District One to gather data. The SCRIM truck visited the Manatee Operations Center to demonstrate its advanced capabilities. This vehicle is a precise surface friction tester, essential for accurately measuring skidding resistance on wet roads.

The SCRIM effectively evaluates road safety by delivering crucial details on friction levels in challenging areas such as ramps, loops, curves, and super-elevated sections. These locations have historically posed challenges for conventional assessment methods. It enhances or supersedes traditional friction measurement tools, providing valuable insights into road departures, wet-weather crashes, and overall traffic performance.

By assessing skid resistance across different pavement types and surface treatments, the SCRIM plays a vital role in promoting safer road conditions.



Benefits of the SCRIM



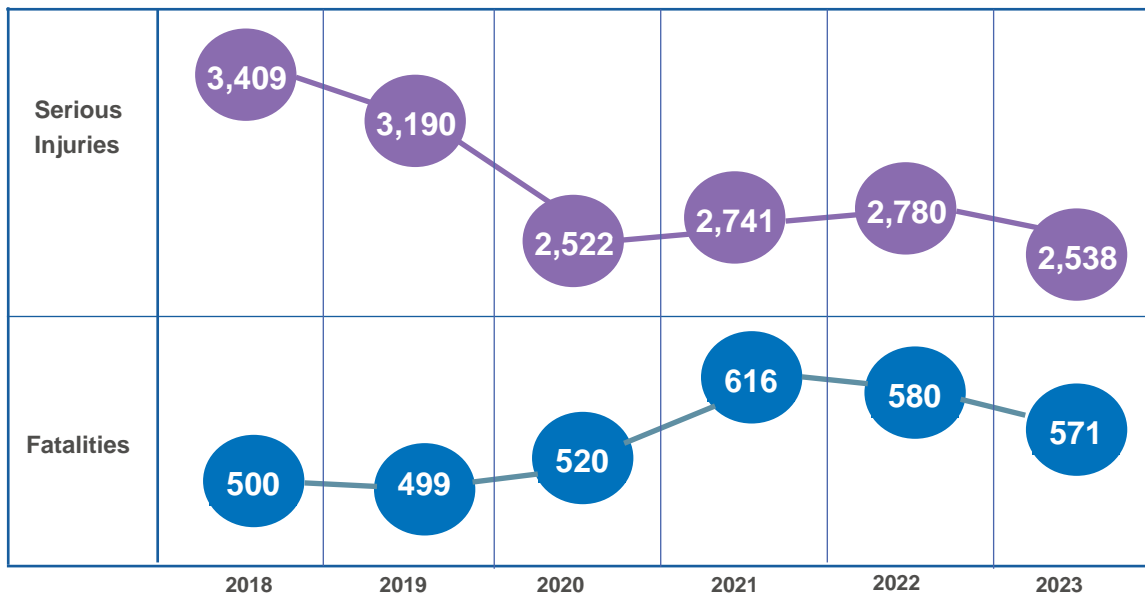
The SCRIM delivers accurate and objective measurements of skid resistance on wet surfaces, pinpointing areas with lower skid resistance that may be susceptible to crashes. Operating efficiently, the truck can cover distances ranging from 45 to 150 miles per tank of water, traveling at speeds between 15 to 55 mph without requiring traffic control.

During its operation in Sarasota and Manatee counties, the SCRIM collected 150 miles of GPS-linked data on friction and texture, along with detailed information on geometry (such as curves, grades, and crossfalls), and video footage.

This comprehensive dataset is invaluable for prioritizing maintenance efforts aimed at reducing crash risks, particularly in wet weather conditions.

D1 CRASH TRENDS

Fatalities & Serious Injuries (2018 - 2023)



Data Source: Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (FLHSMV);
2023 data is preliminary as of 05/15/2024

A review of the crash data from 2015 to 2021, compared to data from 2022 to 2023, revealed a downward trend in crashes involving fatal or serious injuries (FSI) on roadways in both the state and the district, as well as on state highways (SHS) and all public roads in both areas.

Florida fatal and serious injury crashes fell statewide by 0.118 per mile per year (2022-2023). District One public roadways also saw a reduction of FSI crashes at a rate of 0.013 per mile per year.

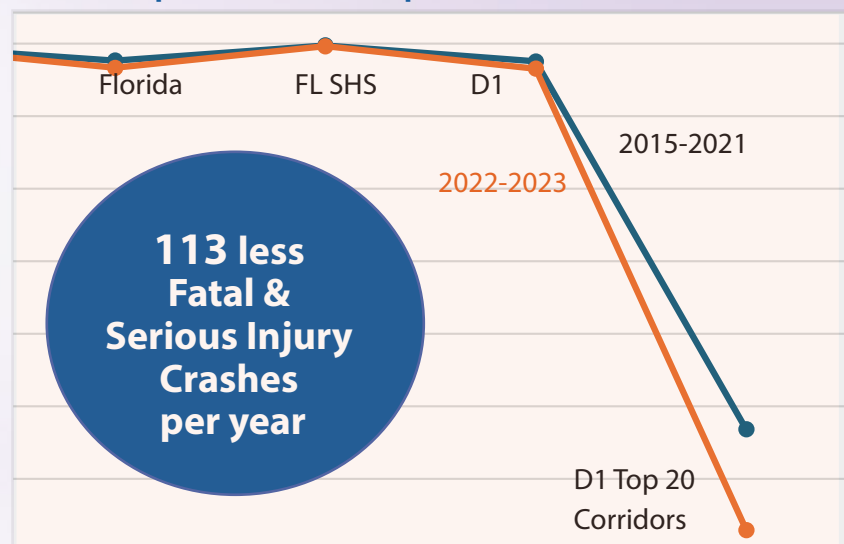
However, along the District's Top 20 high crash corridors there was a significant reduction of 2.64 FSI crashes per mile per year or 113 fewer FSI crashes.

The significant reduction in FSI crashes can be attributed to the safety countermeasures implemented in the high crash corridors. For example, US 41 in Manatee County, was identified as one of the high crash corridors with

295 FSI crashes in five years. After implementing safety countermeasures, which included median modifications, traffic signals and pedestrian hybrid beacons, there was a 50% reduction in FSI crashes.

By studying and analyzing the crash data, District One Safety is able to pinpoint high crash corridors and guide targeted improvements to enhance road safety, ultimately reducing fatal and serious injury crashes.

D1 Top 20 Corridors Compared to State and District



Community Outreach

Traffic Safety at Florida Southern College

Members of District One's Safety Team were invited to speak to college students at Florida Southern College by Tommy Anderson, Theta Chi Gamma Delta Fraternity.

As college students embrace newfound freedoms, the road becomes a pathway to independence, adventure, and often, unforeseen danger. Each year a significant number of traffic crashes involve young adults, highlighting the need for heightened awareness and proactive measures to promote safety among college students.

Theresa Chestnut, District One's Community Traffic Safety Program Coordinator and Tammy Sutton, District One's Safety ADA Coordinator, talked to the college students in April about some of the key factors contributing to crashes among young adults, including distracted driving, speeding, and impaired driving which also includes fatigue. Juggling academic responsibilities, social



engagements, and extracurricular activities could lead to sleep deprivation, leaving drivers vulnerable to slower reaction times.

Students had the opportunity to experiment with impaired driving goggles which simulate the visual impairment or distorted vision caused by alcohol consumption. This simulation aims to educate students about the dangers of driving impaired.

In Florida, teens age 18 and 19 have the highest crash rates.



Learn more about Teen Safe Driving Coalition
<https://fteensafedriver.org/>

Theresa Chestnut addresses the crowd of college students at Florida Southern College.



Students wear Impaired Driving Goggles to feel the affect on balance



Naples Police Department Safety Fair & Family Fun Day



FDOT District One Safety Administrator Keith Robbins and members of the Safety Team, Kyle Kemmish and Thomas Holmes, participated in the Naples Police Department's Safety Fair & Family Fun Day held on May 18th.

Naples Police Chief Ciro Dominguez hosted this family-friendly community event which featured music, food, games, and participation from various community organizations.



Safety Day at Snively Elementary

Members of District One's Safety Team and Traffic Operations spent the day at Snively Elementary School in Eloise, Florida as part of the school's safety day.

Mary Weber, Safety Support Specialist and Cory Snyder talked to over 250 students in 1st through 5th grades about a variety of safety topics such as the importance of crosswalks, bicycling safety, helmet use, and railroad crossing.

"During my visit to Snively Elementary, I was able to hear children and parents discuss their experiences walking and biking in the community. Some of the staff also shared their school traffic safety concerns emphasizing the importance of our safety messages to the students," said Mary Weber.

Each of the students received a goodie bag with a safety workbook, safety materials to share with their parents and a light up wrist band.

Clockwise from the Top Right:
Students demonstrate the proper way to use a crosswalk.

Mary Weber and Cory Snyder talk about the proper fit of a helmet.

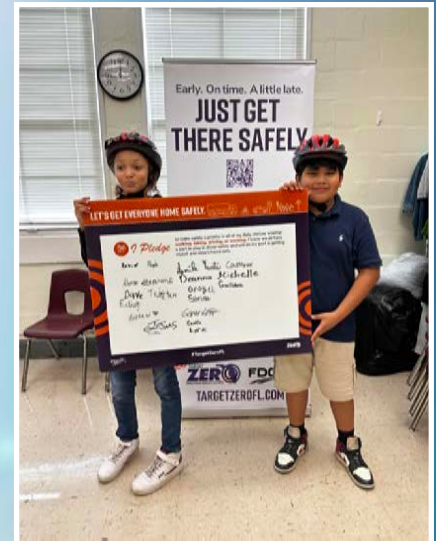
Cory Snyder shows the students a traffic signal and how it works with the crosswalk.

Mary Weber talks to the students about the importance of being safe while walking and bicycling.



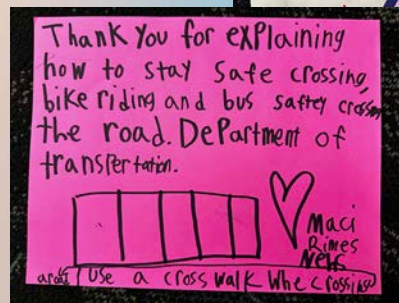
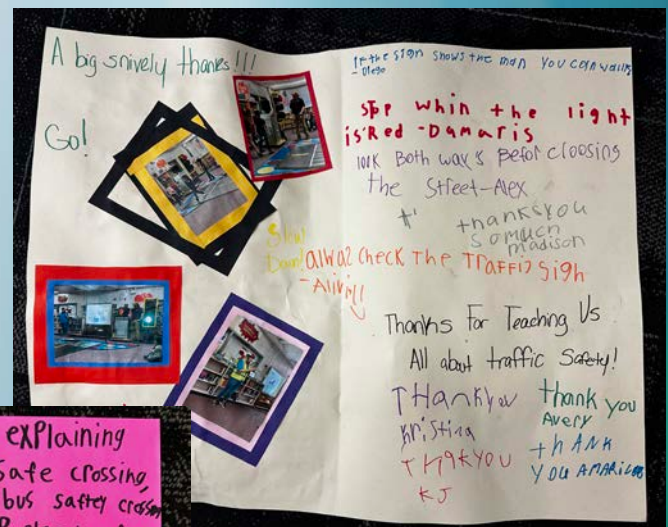
Helmet Fitting

In preparation for the Summer break, District One staff returned to surprise some of the students at Snively Elementary School with the helmets and the helmet fitting. The 5th grade and Kindergarten class learned the importance of wearing a helmet and how to properly fit the helmet. Volunteers for the fitting included: Theresa Chestnut, Amara DeCicco, Justin Gonzalez, Kaydence Johnson, Martes Johnson, Brittany Nichols, Edie Rosenthal, Tammy Sutton, and Mary Weber.



"On behalf of Snively Elementary School students and staff, we greatly appreciate your safety team coming to our campus today to share bicycle safety with us by fitting and giving our Kindergarten and Fifth grade students helmets!"

- Terri Bradford
Snively Elementary
Gifted Education Teacher



Students from Snively showed their appreciation with handwritten notes.

3rd Annual Gear Up for Bike Safety

Port Charlotte High School partnered with Charlotte County Sheriff's Office for the 3rd Annual Gear Up for Bike Safety event on Friday, April 12th, 2024.



The event was started in 2022 by a group of students after a fatal crash involving a high school bicyclist.

This year, the event was held on the school football field, where vendors were set up and there was plenty of space for a bike rodeo.

FDOT Safety Outreach and Education provided safety related materials for our partners with the Charlotte-Punta Gorda Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to distribute.



Attendees learned safety tips, biking laws, and expectations of motorist. Nearly 100 students participated in the event.



Florida Teen Safe Driving Coalition

The Florida Teen Safe Driving Coalition is one of seven traffic safety coalitions in the state. The FTSDC provides invaluable resources, guidance, and tools to help parents and caregivers navigate the process of teaching safe driving skills, manage risks, and establishing open communications channels with teens.

Members of the FTSDC are a diverse group consisting of many organizations who share the vision of creating safer roads and communities, including D1 Safety Administrator, Keith Robbins.

If you are interested in becoming a Friend of the Coalition, you can sign up online at <https://flteensafedriver.org/members/>



Members of the Florida Teen Safe Driving Coalition met in Orlando for their quarterly meeting.



D1 Safety Administrator Keith Robbins presents Certificates of Appreciation to Shaina Finkel (L) and Shyla Hardowar (R) for their participation in Operation Spring into Safety.



Driver Education Resources

Sign Up to become Friend of the Coalition



<https://flteensafedriver.org/>



Safety Banners Around the District

The Outreach & Education Team distributed banners throughout the District with various safety messages. Safety banners are highly visible and serve as constant visual reminders to stay alert and follow safety procedures.



Safe Mobility for Life Outreach Event in Fort Myers



Safe Mobility for Life Coalition members Theresa Chestnut, District One Community Traffic Safety Coordinator, and Lt Dennis Petracca, Lee County Sheriff's Office, presented to the AARP Driver Safety Florida Leadership team on May 15th in Ft. Myers. The presentation, "Working Together to

Improve the Safety, Access, and Mobility of Florida's Aging Population," focused on the resources available through the Safe Mobility for Life Coalition and helping road users achieve mobility independence by learning how to enhance safe driving skills and, if necessary, build a transportation plan that explores life beyond the driver's seat.

Learn more about
Safe Mobility for Life
at <https://www.safemobilityfl.com/>



Public Meeting (US 19) in Manatee County

District One held a public meeting on June 4th to discuss proposed median modifications along US 41 at 16th Ave E and 61st Street E (Palm View Rd) in Manatee County. Local residents and business owners were invited to share their concerns and ask questions.

The proposed median modifications would improve safety along the corridor by restricting left turns from the side streets.



Photo by David Scarpelli



Photo by David Scarpelli



Photo by David Scarpelli

Destination Zero Roadway Safety Forum

District One Safety Administrator Keith Robbins and John Kubicki, Safety Work Program Manager, spoke at the Destination Zero Roadway Safety Forum hosted by the Sarasota/Manatee Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) on May 23.

Attendees learned about the key strategies of traffic safety, crash data trends statewide and for the local area, Target Zero initiatives, and District One Safety initiatives. Some of the safety projects highlighted included:

- Roundabout at SR 64 and Rye Rd.
- Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons
- Speed Management on US 41



A second public meeting was held in Manatee County to discuss safety improvement projects along SR 55 (US 19) and 11th Ave intersection.

Bradenton/Palmetto Public Meeting

The proposed improvements include converting the existing full median opening to a directional median opening and will prevent left turns from 11th Ave onto SR 55.

By preventing left turns, the directional median opening will eliminate safety concerns as well as provide a pedestrian refuge in the media for those looking to cross the road.



Photo by Patricia Pichette



Photo by Patricia Pichette

Law Enforcement Partnerships

Guardian Angel Devices Delivered to Law Enforcement Partners



Left to Right: Capt. Jose Vitali, DeSoto County Sheriff James Potter, District One Safety Administrator, Keith Robbins, Theresa Chestnut, District One Community Outreach Program Coordinator, Janice Martinez, District One Law Enforcement Liaison and Lt. Greg Bueno, Florida Highway Patrol

District One Safety Administrator Keith Robbins and members of the safety team delivered Guardian Angel devices to various law enforcement agencies as part of a pilot program to enhance safety of law enforcement officers.

The Guardian Angel devices are versatile, light-up, magnetic devices that can be worn on the uniform. The flashing light ensures law enforcement officers are visible, even when stepping away from their vehicles, at all hours, day or night.

Whether it is for traffic stops or tactical operations, these devices will play a crucial role in enhancing the safety of law enforcement partners.



Janice Martinez, District One Law Enforcement Liaison (far left) and Theresa Chestnut, District One Community Traffic Safety Team Coordinator (far right), along with Bartow Operations staff, (back right) Michael Alves and Bruce Bailey, present Guardian Angel devices to multiple law enforcement agencies in Polk County



Sgt. Willie Roberts accepts the Guardian Angel Device on behalf of Clewiston Police Department

Polk County Geofencing Campaign *with Sheriff Grady Judd*

A comprehensive and targeted online video campaign was conducted in Polk County with the focus on reducing speeding and aggressive driving. The campaign, which ran from March 8 to July 7, used social media and geofencing technology to reach drivers in Polk County. The message from Sheriff Grady Judd was a simple one: Speeding is not a vibe! The video clip appeared on social media platforms, online news sites, as well as movie theaters, bars, restaurants, and fitness centers. The message ended with the QR code to the Safety Office website.

Campaign totals: **Impressions: 2,168,185**
Link Clicks: 19,860

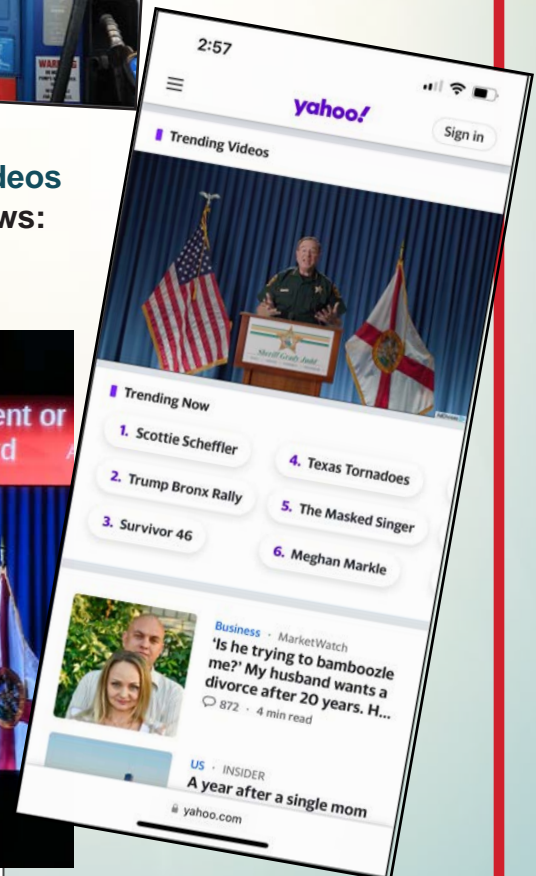
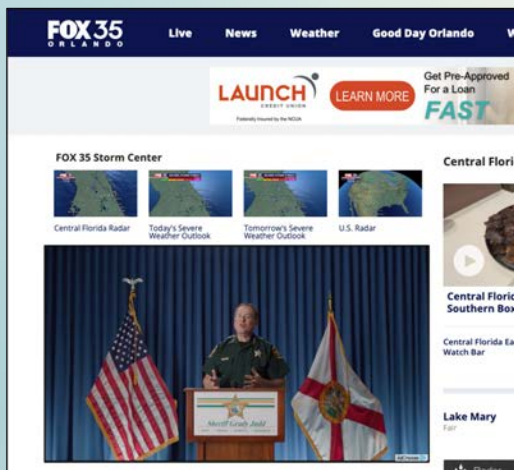


**Gas Station Videos
Completed Views:
136,068**

D1 Safety
Office
website



**Facebook/Instagram:
766,599 Impressions
Clicks: 18,954 (2.47%)**

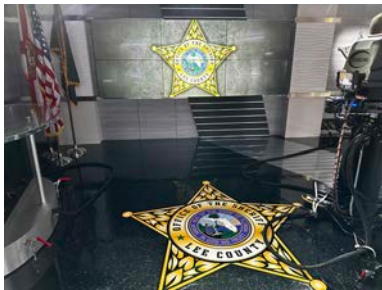


**Online Video Ads
Completed Views:
486,283**

Lights, Camera, Action!



Safety Administrator Keith Robbins joined Lee County Sheriff Carmine Marceno for a segment of "Coffee with Carmine," where they discussed traffic safety concerns. The segment aired on June 15 on the Lee County Sheriff Office's social media sites. Sheriff Marceno has more than 300,000 followers on his Facebook page.



New Chair Announced for Glades County Community Traffic Safety Team

Glades County Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST) officially named Lt. Patrick Willis as Chair on June 6th. Lt. Willis serves Sheriff David Hardin with the Glades County Sheriff's Office. He has actively participated in CTST meetings, helping identify action items and areas of concern, and reporting on efforts within the Sheriff's Office to reduce traffic crashes in the county.

As a token of appreciation, Theresa Chestnut, FDOT District One CTST Coordinator (right), and FDOT Safety Specialist Mary Weber (left), presented Lt. Willis with a Guardian Angel Device.



SAFETY SPOTLIGHT

Kyle Kemmish

Kyle Kemmish joined the Safety Team in September 2022 as a Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Specialist out of the Southwest Area Operations Center in Fort Myers. However, since he joined, it seems he is always on the road.

Maybe you have seen him in his bright vest and brighter smile at a partner outreach and education event! Or it may have been on the side of the road testing the Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB) or Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) equipment.

With his background, and several certifications, including with the International Municipal Signal Association, he was a perfect fit to take the lead on the Polk County Speed Feedback Sign pilot program. Speed feedback signs were installed at multiple locations in



Polk County to assist with speed control efforts and targeted law enforcement. While still a work in progress, this project led him to be involved in evaluating, installing, and maintaining speed feedback sign equipment across the District. No matter where he is or what his assignment, his enthusiasm is infectious.



Lighting
along US 17



Partnering with Local Agencies to Improve Lighting

In 2022, nighttime crashes accounted for 41% of the fatal crashes in District One. Last year, District One Safety purchased over 1,250 light fixtures which were installed by our maintaining agencies. This year, over 780 light fixtures have already been purchased. Sarasota County, City of Sarasota, Manatee County, and Hendry County were major contributors.

The post-installation study shows a 32% reduction in fatal and serious injury crashes.

This initiative highlights how local agencies that are willing and able to partner with FDOT can make improvements on our roadways that can enhance the safety for all users.

Helmet Fitting Certification Class

Join us for a 90-minute training course on the proper way to fit bicycle helmets.

Consultants are also included in this event.

Upcoming Classes

SWAO Helmet Fitting Training Course

10041 Daniels Parkway, Ft. Myers
Tuesday, July 9, 2024
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Bartow Headquarters Helmet Fitting Training Course

801 North Broadway Avenue, Bartow
Wednesday, July 10, 2024
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Manatee Operations Center Helmet Fitting Training Course

14000 HWY 64, Bradenton
Thursday, July 18, 2024
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.



OPERATION SOUTHERN SLOWDOWN



Operation Southern Slow Down is a week-long speed enforcement and education campaign conducted between July 15–29.

State troopers and local law enforcement officers will conduct concentrated enforcement on interstates and state highways in the Southeast (Florida, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, and Tennessee) for the week in a team effort to help prevent an increase in drivers traveling at speeds well above the legal limit.

Operation Southern Slow Down began in 2017 when these five states that comprise National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Region 4 – Florida, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, and Tennessee – decided to hold a week-long joint speed enforcement and education awareness campaign annually in the third week of July with the goal of reducing crashes and saving lives.

Professional Engineer Trainees Learn about D1 Safety Office



PE Trainees Vijay Sharma, Stephen Pack, and Leonida Culbreth meet with Safety Administrator, Keith Robbins (above) and the Safety Outreach & Education Team (below).



Three Professional Engineer Trainees spent a week in the Safety Office in June as part of Florida Department of Transportation's Professional Engineer (PE) program. The PE program is a four-year, two-phase training program encompassing all aspects of the Department's operations, including Safety, leading to licensure as a Professional Engineer.

"It has been an invaluable experience spending time and learning from the Safety team," said Leonida Culbreth. "I was surprised to learn about the comprehensive nature of safety protocols including the detailed analysis of Crash Modification Factors (CMF) and their impact on countermeasures."

"The integration of GIS data in crash analysis was an eye-opener," explained Leonida.

The PE Trainees received an overview of the Safety Office from Dr. Keith Robbins, Safety Administrator, and then they spent time with the three sections of the Safety Office: Industrial Health and Safety, Traffic Safety Outreach & Education, and Safety Work Program.

Safe Routes to School Workshop Coming Soon



A Safe Routes to School Workshop is being planned for August. For communities that are just getting started or are interested in supporting safe walking and bicycling for youth, this workshop provides an introduction to the Florida Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program and a discussion of initial steps you can take to build a successful Safe Routes to School Program.

Interested in attending or have questions?

Contact Menga "Amy" Ao or John Kubicki
menga.ao@dot.state.fl.us
john.kubicki@dot.state.fl.us

D1 Safety Office

Safety Administrator
Keith Robbins, PhD

Law Enforcement Liaison
Janice Martinez

Industrial Health & Safety
Lacey Price
Tracy Berry
Thomas Holmes

Traffic Safety Outreach & Education
Theresa Chestnut Mary Weber
Tammy Sutton Edie Rosenthal

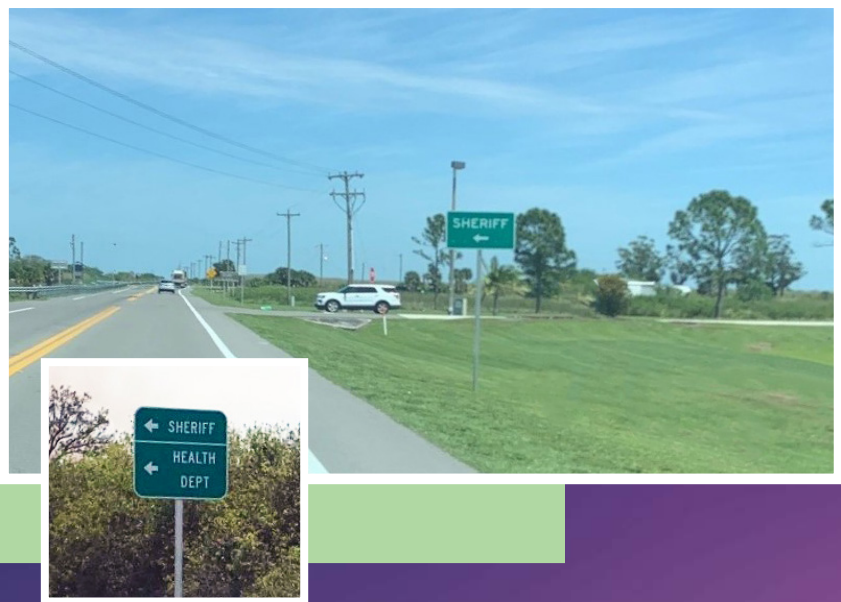
Safety Work Program
John Kubicki Kyle Kemmish
Amy Ao Bruce Miller
Scott Castro Rob Swan
Amara DeCicco

Community Traffic Safety Teams in *ACTION*

Glades County

Glades County requested the installation of several guide signs to alert motorists to the location of the Sheriff's Office and the Emergency Management & Fire Station near the intersection of US 27 and SR 78.

District One sent plans for the Glades County staff for review in February 2024 and the signs were installed in March and April.

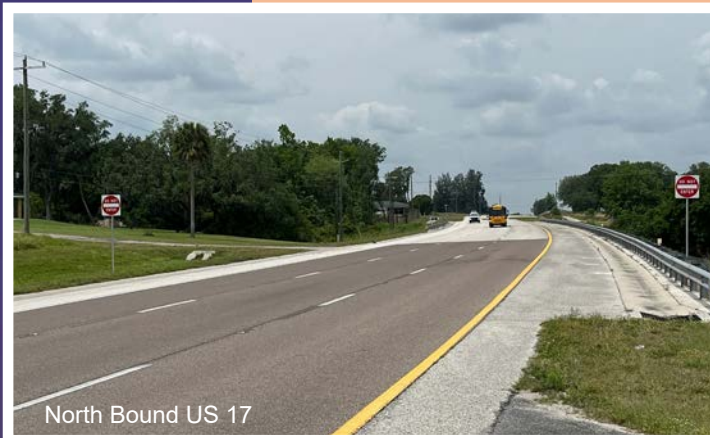


Hardee County

Law Enforcement partners in Hardee County alerted the CTST to concerns with wrong-way drivers exiting Ranch 17, an event venue in Wauchula on SB US 17 south of Sterner Rd. (06010102 around MP 3.2). They asked FDOT to post Wrong Way/Do Not Enter signs just north of the driveway to the venue or add signage indicating no right turn at the driveway or across the street where the one-way sign is posted.

Plans were developed to install wrong way/do not enter signs in both north and south bound directions.

Peace River Operations crew installed the signs in March 2024.



North Bound US 17



South Bound US 17

Glades County

While there is a planned project to resurface CR 74 in Glades County from Firetower Rd. to SR 29 as part of a local area partnership, work will not be completed until FY 2026.

Glades County Sheriff's Office had been receiving calls since the beginning of 2024 from drivers asking for assistance with flat tires or waiting for tow trucks in this area. Officers noted many spots where the pavement conditions had already failed.

Glades County and LaBelle Operations worked together to patch several of the worst spots. These patches will make the road safer until the resurfacing project comes through the area.



Glades County

After a fatal crash damaged the reflective signage at the terminus of CR 74 at SR 29 in Glades County in 2023, members of the Glades County CTST requested additional signing and pavement markings at this intersection.

Traffic Services installed yellow skip lines, double yellow signs, white stop messaging, a new arrow sign with embedded LED/reflector, and a stop sign flasher. These types of low-cost safety countermeasures increase driver awareness and recognition of intersections and potential conflicts.



Highlands County



Highlands County School Transportation reported multiple incidents of motorists speeding past bus stop arms on US 27. Initially, Law Enforcement responded by monitoring US 27 at Stephens Dr, Lake Ridge Dr., and Hickory Ln. However, a more permanent system was requested.

Through a partnership with Highlands County, FDOT installed advanced warning signs with flashers in Spring 2024. Maintenance and control were transferred to the County, and will be active during the 2024-2025 school year.



SAFETY CALENDAR



JULY

- 1-30 Vehicle Theft Prevention Month
- 4 Independence Day
- 7-11 Operation Safe Driver Week
- 9 Heartland TIM Meeting
- 11 Polk County TIM Meeting
- 15-29 Operation Southern Slowdown
- 16 Sarasota/Manatee CTST Meeting
- 17 Hardee County CTST Meeting
- 17 DeSoto County CTST Meeting
- 23-24 FL Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety Coalition Mtg (Orlando)
- 24 Lee County CTST Meeting
- 24 Charlotte County CTST Meeting

AUGUST

- 1-31 Child Safety Awareness Month
- 1-31 Back to School Month
- 1 Glades County CTST Meeting
- 1 Hendry County CTST Meeting
- 4-10 Stop on Red Week
- 7 Polk County CTST Meeting
- 13 Sarasota/Manatee County TIM Meeting
- 14 Collier-Lee-Charlotte TIM Team Meeting
- 15 Highlands County CTST Meeting
- 19 National Aviation Day
- 20 Sarasota/Manatee CTST Meeting
- 21 Hardee County CTST Meeting
- 21 DeSoto County CTST Meeting
- 22 Collier County CTST Meeting
- 28 Lee County CTST Meeting

SEPTEMBER

- 1-30 National Preparedness Month
- 1-30 Workforce Development Month
- 2 Labor Day
- 2-6 Drowsy Driving Prevention Week
- 4 Polk County CTST Meeting
- 5 Glades County CTST Meeting
- 5 Hendry County CTST Meeting
- 8-14 Suicide Prevention Week
- 15-21 Truck Driver Appreciation Week
- 16-20 Construction Appreciation Week
- 16-20 Roundabouts Week
- 17 IT Professionals Day
- 17 Sarasota/Manatee CTST Meeting
- 18 Hardee County CTST Meeting
- 18 DeSoto County CTST Meeting
- 21 Seat Check Saturday
- 23-29 Rail Safety Week
- 25 Lee County CTST Meeting
- 25 Charlotte County CTST Meeting
- 26 HR Professionals Day
- 26 Collier County CTST Meeting

* CTST - Community Traffic Safety Team

** TIM - Traffic Incident Management

Check out D1 Safety website
for safety resources, videos, and other
safety events
<https://www.swflroads.com/d1safety/>
or scan the QR code (right)

