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Osawatomie Police Focus Enforcement Efforts on Teen Drivers, Traffic Safety ***SAFE Campaign Runs Through March 8***

OSAWATOMIE – Beginning today, the Osawatomie Police Department is joining other law enforcement agencies across Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma by increasing traffic enforcement efforts near local high schools.

To raise awareness, OPD officers are increasing patrol efforts near Osawatomie High School through March 8. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teens ages 15-18 across the United States.

“Even one teen death is unacceptable,” OPD Chief Dave Ellis said. “Please slow down, put the phone away or turn it off, and always buckle up.”

Officers will issue citations to any driver who refuses to obey Kansas traffic laws - whether it’s speeding or texting. In Kansas, any vehicle occupant – passenger or driver – can be cited for failing to buckle up. Law enforcement officers are using the campaign to remind teens, and even older drivers, that driving is a privilege.