
LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE



Lane County Sheriff's Office Recognized by Mothers Against Drunk Driving for *Every 15 Minutes* Program Participation

On March 5, 2019, the Lane County Sheriff's Office was recognized as the *2018 Oregon Group Advocate of the Year* by [Mothers Against Drunk Driving \(MADD\)](#) in connection with the Sheriff's Office's continued efforts in decreasing drunk driving related crashes and fatalities through a program called *Every 15 Minutes*.

Every 15 Minutes is a 2 day underage drinking and driving prevention program which challenges teens to think before drinking and operating a vehicle, or getting in the car with someone who has been drinking. The program consists of a staged car crash where the role players are students from the participating school, an overnight retreat for participating students, and a community assembly where guest speakers and parents are invited to share how their lives have been impacted by drunk driving.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office has hosted the *Every 15 Minutes* program thirteen times over the last 9 years in Lane County high schools in effort to provide an impactful experience that will help students make the right choice when confronted with decisions regarding drinking and driving.

Participating students and staff from the most recent *Every 15 Minutes* program at Mohawk High School were invited to attend the MADD recognition ceremony with Sheriff Byron Trapp. At the ceremony, Andy Rice of Mohawk High School and Chief Steven Wallace of the Mohawk Rural Fire Department were also recognized for their efforts in bringing the *Every 15 Minutes* program to their community.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office would like to thank all of the community members who donate their time and expertise to help make this program a success, including retired Lane County Sheriff's Office Sergeant Kevin Woodworth for organizing the program, the Oregon State Police and first responders from local law enforcement agencies and local fire departments, Life Flight, local tow companies for donating the mock car crash vehicles, Camp Harlow for hosting the student retreat, Michael Sherman for videography, local moulage artists, the staff and students of participating schools and their families, the community speakers, and MADD.

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Sheriff Byron Trapp, MADD National President Helen Witty, Andy Rice of Mohawk High School, and Mohawk Rural Fire Department Chief Steven Wallace



Sheriff Byron Trapp, Mohawk High School students, and the Oregon State Troopers that assisted with the most recent Every 15 Minutes program.

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