

# LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

## NEWS RELEASE



**DATE/TIME OF EVENT:** January 8, 2019 and January 9, 2019

**DATE/TIME OF RELEASE:** January 7, 2019 9:10 am

**NATURE OF STORY:** Lane County Sheriff's Office to host *Every 15 Minutes* program at Mohawk High School

**LOCATION:** Mohawk High School, Marcola, OR

### **DETAILS:**

*Every 15 Minutes* someone in the United States is killed as the result of an alcohol related crash. Alcohol-related collisions are the leading cause of death among teenage youth. This year on January 8th and 9th, the Lane County Sheriff's Office is taking a proactive step in educating local high school students about making mature decisions when alcoholic beverages are involved. The Lane County Sheriff's Office, in cooperation with multiple police, fire, and first responder agencies and volunteers, will host a program called *Every 15 Minutes* at Mohawk High School. This will be the 13<sup>th</sup> *Every 15 Minutes* program put on by the Lane County Sheriff's Office over the last 9 years.



*Every 15 Minutes* is a two-day underage drinking and driving prevention program which challenges teens to think before drinking and operating any type of motor vehicle, riding in one after the operator has been drinking, or engaging in activities that cause them to become distracted such as cell phone usage. It also focuses on the impact those decisions have on family, friends, and the people you leave behind when someone is killed as a result of an alcohol or distracted driving related crash.

### **Media Opportunity**

**Mock Car Crash - Tuesday January 8, 2019:** The mock car crash will be at 92250 Schoolhouse Street in Marcola at 2:15 pm on Tuesday, January 8th. This staged car crash will involve students in the following roles: a DUII driver, a mock fatality resulting from the mock crash, and several injured subjects. Police, Fire, and Life Flight (weather permitting) will respond and work this crash as they would any real crash. *We request that media arrive at the crash scene no later than 2:00 p.m. if possible to set up and as to not interfere with responding emergency personnel as the crash scene is in an area which can easily become congested.*

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**Community Assembly -Wednesday January 9, 2019:** The community assembly (located in the main gym of the High School, 38300 Wendling Road, Marcola) will include speakers who have been impacted by drinking and driving crashes. Involved students and parents will also speak about their experience with this program. The assembly will begin at 10:15 a.m. and conclude at approximately 11:30 a.m. This assembly is open to the public and may be announced in media releases.

A huge thank you to the participating agencies and volunteers who have helped the Sheriff's Office make this event possible: Retired Lane County Sheriff's Sergeant Kevin Woodworth, Mohawk Valley Fire Chief Steven Wallace and the Mohawk Valley Fire Department, the Oregon State Police, Marcola School District staff and students, Eugene / Springfield Fire, the Sweet Home Fire District, LifeFlight, and Camp Harlow staff.

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