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**LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**NEWS RELEASE**



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**DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT:** Friday May 19<sup>th</sup>- Sunday May 21<sup>nd</sup>, 2017  
**DATE/TIME OF RELEASE:** May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 / 10:00 am  
**NATURE OF STORY:** LCSO Saturation Patrols  
**LOCATION:** Rhododendron Days, Florence, OR

**DETAILS:**

The Lane County Sheriff's office received \$24,000 in combined grant funding for three types of traffic enforcement focus. This funding makes possible the Sheriff's Office participation in state and national campaigns to reduce traffic crashes, injuries and fatalities on Lane County roads. Grants are administered through Oregon Dept. of Transportation and Oregon State Sheriff's Association, allowing Sheriff's Deputies to conduct saturation patrols on overtime. These patrols have a special emphasis on seat belt violations during daytime and nighttime, speed related incidents and DUII detection and enforcement.

According to ODOT, Hwy 126W remains one of the deadliest highways in the State of Oregon. Through grant funding, the Lane County Sheriff's Office will be conducting saturation patrols in the Florence area and Hwy 126W area this weekend during the Rhododendron Days Festival. Deputies will be focusing on speeding vehicles, seat belt compliance and DUII detection and apprehension.

The Rhododendron Festival saturation coincides with the national "Click it or Ticket" campaign.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office is anticipating heavy traffic and congestion on Hwy 101 and Hwy 126W as a result of the festival. Motorists are advised to expect delays in the area and encouraged to drive safely, drive sober and always wear your seatbelt.

**Prepared by: Deputy Tim Ware**