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



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**DATE/TIME OF EVENT:** 5/17/2019 – 5/19/2019

**DATE/TIME OF RELEASE:** 5/15/2019 10:00 am

**NATURE OF STORY:** Lane County Sheriff's Office Traffic Safety Saturation Patrols

**LOCATION:** Rhododendron Festival, Florence, OR

**DETAILS:**

The Lane County Sheriff's Office will be conducting grant funded saturation patrols in the Florence area and Hwy 126 West area from Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> during the Rhododendron Festival. Deputies will be focusing on speed limit enforcement, seat belt compliance, and DUII detection and apprehension.

These patrols are funded through grants administered through the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association, allowing deputies to conduct saturation patrols on overtime to increase community safety. This funding makes it possible for the Sheriff's Office to participate in state and national efforts to reduce traffic crashes, injuries and fatalities on Lane County roads. According to ODOT, Hwy 126W remains one of the deadliest highways in the State of Oregon.

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

**Sent by: Sergeant Carrie Carver 541-682-4179**

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