



Ortonville Police Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DRIVERS WITH HEAVY FOOTS NOW HAVE A LIGHTER WALLET FOLLOWING JULY SPEED ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGN

In July, Ortonville Police Department officers conducted enhanced speed patrols and cited two motorists traveling at illegal speeds. The effort was part of a statewide speed enforcement campaign administered by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety.

In Big Stone County, a typical 10 mph over the limit speeding ticket can cost \$125.00

“Summertime is when motorists get heavier foots, and that’s a big reason why this time of the year is so deadly,” says Chief of Police Jason Mork. “Don’t let blue skies and clear roads give you a false sense of security. Drive at safe speeds to reduce your risk for a crash — and avoid a preventable ticket.”

Speeding is the most commonly reported factor in fatal crashes. Each year in Minnesota, speed contributes to more than 100 traffic deaths and 300 life-altering, serious injuries. In the three-year period 2007–2009 in Minnesota, speed contributed to zero traffic deaths in Big Stone County and 325 fatalities statewide — resulting in an economic impact of more than \$390 million.

Among those cited for speed, the fastest was going 15 mph over the posted speed limit.

The speed enforcement and education effort is coordinated by the Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety. The campaign is a component of the state’s *Toward Zero Death* program (TZD). A primary vision of the TZD program is to create a safe driving culture in Minnesota in which motorists support a goal of zero road fatalities by practicing and promoting safe and smart driving behavior. TZD focuses on the application of four strategic areas to reduce crashes — education, enforcement, engineering and emergency trauma response.

Obey the Sign. Or Pay the Fine.

“To Serve and Protect”