



Elk Grove Police Department

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Elk Grove Police Department Receives Grant For Special Traffic Enforcement and Crash Prevention

ELK GROVE, CA – The Elk Grove Police Department (EGPD) has been awarded a \$220,000.00 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) for a year-long program of special enforcements and public awareness efforts to prevent traffic related deaths and injuries. EGPD will use the funding as part of the city's ongoing commitment to keep our roadways safe and improve the quality of life through both enforcement and education.

“The Elk Grove Police Department is dedicated to improving traffic flow, pedestrian safety and working to keep all drivers on Elk Grove's streets safe,” said Traffic Bureau Lt. Eric White. “I want to personally thank OTS for their continued partnership and support in reaching the goal of making our roads safer for our community.”

After falling to a ten year low in 2010, the number of persons killed on roadways has climbed nearly 17 percent across the state, with 3,429 fatalities in 2015. Particularly alarming is the rise in pedestrian and bicycle fatalities that now comprise nearly 25 percent of all traffic deaths, along with the growing dangers of distracting technologies and the emergence of drug-impaired driving. This grant funding will provide opportunities to combat these and other devastating problems such as speeding and crashes at intersections.

“Unsafe behaviors account for 94 percent of traffic crashes,” said OTS Director Rhonda Craft. “This grant emphasizes the two most effective ways to change behaviors – education and enforcement. The Elk Grove Police Department, with assistance from the Office of Traffic Safety, will use these tools to help keep Elk Grove streets safe.”

Activities that the grant will fund include:

- DUI checkpoints
- DUI saturation patrols
- Bicycle and pedestrian safety enforcement
- Motorcycle safety enforcement
- Distracted driving enforcement
- Speed, red light, and stop sign enforcement

While alcohol remains the worst offender for DUI crashes, Elk Grove PD supports the new effort from OTS that aims to drive awareness that “DUI Doesn’t Just Mean Booze.” Prescription medications and marijuana can also be impairing by themselves, or in combination with alcohol, and can result in a DUI arrest.

Funding for this program is from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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