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Governor Bredesen Awards Highway Safety Grant for Sevier County

Sevier County Sheriff's Department to Receive Funds to Improve Safety on Tennessee Roadways

Nashville, Tenn. – Tennessee officials announced today that Sevier County has been awarded a highway safety grant of $39,263 for the Sevier County Sheriff's Department to support efforts to reduce DUI and speeding violations in Sevier County.

The Governor's Highway Safety Office (GHSO) mission is to save lives and reduce injuries on Tennessee roadways through leadership, innovation, coordination, and program support in partnership with other public and private organizations. The grant awarded will be used to promote this mission.

"These highway safety grants reflect a continued commitment to work with local and state agencies to make our roadways even safer than they are today," said Bredesen. "The funds made available through these grants will support the efforts of many local and state highway safety partners to reduce the number of people killed and injured in traffic crashes each year."

Grant awards are issued to agencies that successfully applied for funding based on problem and statistical need. The GHSO notified agencies across the state that applications were being accepted for highway safety grants. Applications were reviewed and scored by the GHSO and external highway safety advocates. The agencies that met the criteria for funding received awards.

"I am proud that we are able to help fund important programs at the state and local level that help reduce the number of traffic crashes on Tennessee roadways," stated Commissioner Gerald Nicely, Tennessee Department of Transportation. "These grants will make a difference in the effectiveness of our highway safety partners."

There are several elements that contribute to a sound and safe roadway system. Some of those aspects are an accurate traffic safety data collection and analysis system; well-trained and equipped law enforcement personnel; and effective emergency medical and trauma systems. A major part of roadway safety is educating motorists about laws and good driving behaviors.

"Grants awarded by the GHSO are provided in areas of need," reported GHSO Director Kendell Poole. "Statistics show our problem areas and we strive to put the funding where it will be most effective. We are dedicated to saving lives across Tennessee and pledge to work with grantees statewide to accomplish our mission."

The agency to receive funding in Sevier County is the Sevier County Sheriff's Department.

Senator Doug Overbey and Representatives Richard Montgomery and Joe McCord worked to secure these funds for the Pittman Center Police Department.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration provides the funding for GHSO grants.

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