



Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office

NEWS RELEASE

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Richard R. Schmidt
Acting Sheriff

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2017 September-December Summary of Saturation Patrols and Crashes



Milwaukee, WI – Upon becoming Acting Sheriff in September, Richard Schmidt ordered on-going, random saturation patrols on the Milwaukee County free way system to combat reckless driving and dangerously high speeding. The Wisconsin State Patrol has partnered with the Sheriff's Office on this initiative. The following statistics show the impact of the initiative from its inception in September through the end of December:

From September through 2017 year end, 4554 traffic citations were issued, 3108 for speeding:

11-15 mph over: 182	35-39 mph over: 19
16-19 mph over: 1143	40-44 mph over: 4
20-24 mph over: 1060	45-49 mph over: 4
25-29 mph over: 308	50+ mph over: 23
30-34 mph over: 90	Unreasonable-imprudent speed: 291

Statement from Sheriff Schmidt: "Excessive speed and reckless driving are major contributors to the 5,000 crashes that occurred in 2017. I am demonstrating that the Sheriff's Office's commitment to making our streets safer with these ongoing saturation patrols. We are intent on putting a screeching halt to speeding and reckless driving."

Crashes 2017 total – 5000; 8 fatalities OWI arrests 2017: 851 OWI; 100 OWI/Drugs

The focus of the saturation patrols is on reducing crashes, serious injury and property damage, and is not based on generating revenue. Construction zone safety is also compromised by speeding, reckless drivers. Motorists need to obey Wisconsin's MOVE OVER LAW, moving over a lane for emergency vehicles and tow trucks, or slowing to under 40 mph if unable to safely change lanes.

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