



## SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

**SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**ROBERT HINSHAW**  
Sheriff

141 WEST ELM \* WICHITA, KANSAS 67203 \* TELEPHONE: (316) 660-3900 \* FAX: (316) 660-3248

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: November 23, 2009

AGENCY: SEDGWICK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

LOCATION: WICHITA/SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

TELEPHONE: (316) 660-3770

CONTACT: LT. DAVID MATTINGLY

THE SEDGWICK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IS PROUD TO AGAIN TEAM UP WITH THE WICHITA POLICE DEPARTMENT, KANSAS HIGHWAY PATROL, THE DUI VICTIM CENTER OF KANSAS, THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, PAPA JOHN'S AND USD 259, IN AN AGGRESSIVE EFFORT TO INCREASE SAFE DRIVING HABITS.

THIS HOLIDAY SEASON MARKS THE SECOND YEAR FOR THESE AGENCIES TO PARTNER TOGETHER FOR A COMMON CAUSE, MAKING HOLIDAY TRAVEL SAFER FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

THE 2009 HOLIDAY DRIVE FOR VICTIMS, KICKED OFF THIS MORNING AT 12:01 A.M. WITH THE THANKSGIVING TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGN. FOURTEEN ADDITIONAL DEPUTIES WILL BE PATROLLING THE STREETS OF SEDGWICK COUNTY, FOCUSING ON IMPAIRED DRIVING, SAFETY RESTRAINT VIOLATIONS AND OTHER TRAFFIC INFRACTIONS. THIS SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGN WILL END ON NOVEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>, BUT THE PARTNERSHIP WILL CONTINUE TO DILIGENTLY SEEK OUT IMPAIRED DRIVERS AND SAFETY RESTRAINT VIOLATIONS THROUGH THE END OF THE YEAR.

M-O-R-E

THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES ARE ONLY ONE PART OF THIS GROUP EFFORT. USD 259 RAISES AWARENESS THROUGH THE DISPLAY OF RED RIBBONS ON STUDENT AND FACULTY VEHICLES AND THEY ARE TREATED TO PIZZA, COURTESY OF PAPA JOHN'S FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION.

THE DUI VICTIMS CENTER PROVIDES SUPPORT TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES BY ATTENDING SQUAD MEETINGS AND THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PROVIDES GRANT FUNDING FOR MANY OF THE SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGNS.

EVERYONE INVOLVED HAS A SPECIAL ROLE. ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION, ONLY 23% OF THE POPULATION LIVE IN RURAL AREAS, YET 57% OF ALL TRAFFIC FATALITIES OCCUR ON RURAL ROADS. THIS SHOULD SERVE AS A STRONG REMINDER TO THOSE TRAVELING IN SEDGWICK COUNTY TO BUCKLE UP AND DON'T DRINK IF YOU ARE GOING TO DRIVE.

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