SAN BERNARDINO POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES GRANT FOR SPECIAL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT AND CRASH PREVENTION

San Bernardino Police Department Traffic Unit has been awarded a $429,504.00 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. San Bernardino Police Department 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.

“Roadway safety continues to be a concern in every community, including San Bernardino”, said San Bernardino Police Chief Jarrod Burguan. “Our relationship with the Office of Traffic Safety and funding provided through these partnerships have contributed to our ability to address traffic safety concerns by funding programs that directly attack problematic behavior leading to crashes and injuries, including impaired driving, distracted driving, reckless driving and seatbelt use. We will continue to enforce laws related to this behavior in an effort to make our community a safer place”.

After falling dramatically between 2006 and 2010, the number of persons killed and injured in traffic collisions saw slight increases in 2011 and 2012. Particularly worrisome are recent increases in pedestrian and motorcycle fatalities and the dangers of distracting technologies. This grant funding will provide opportunities to combat these and other devastating problems such as drunk and drugged driving and speeding.

“California’s roadways are still among the safest in the nation,” said OTS Director Rhonda Craft. “But to meet future mobility, safety, and sustainability objectives, we must create safer roadways
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for all users. The San Bernardino Police Department will be using these and other resources to reach the vision we all share – *Toward zero deaths, every 1 counts.*”

Activities that the grant will fund include:

- DUI checkpoints
- DUI saturation patrols
- Motorcycle safety enforcement
- Distracted driving enforcement
- Seat belt and child safety seat enforcement
- Traffic enforcement operations
- Bicycle/pedestrian safety operations
- Compilation of DUI “Hot Sheets,” identifying worst-of-the-worst DUI offenders
- Specialized DUI and drugged driving training such as Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST), Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE), and Drug Recognition Evaluator (DRE)

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