



ZERU TOWARD ZERO DEATHS
MARYLAND
EVERY LIFE COUNTS



Issue
SEVEN

April/May 2018

Monthly Insights from the Maryland Chief's and Sheriff's Associations

THE CHECKPOINT

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO YOUR RANKS

Looking Ahead

- **May 21—June 3**

Click It or Ticket HVE

- **June 3—8, 2018**

The DUI Institute for Law Enforcement
(University of Maryland)

- **June 6, 2018**

Secure Your Load Day

- **June 11, 2018**

MHSO Motorcycle Safety Summit
(Maritime Institute in Baltimore)

- **June 18, 2018**

National Ride to Work Day

- **June 26—July 8**

Checkpoint Strikeforce

- **July 20—July 29**

Aggressive Drivers are Public Threats
(ADAPT) Wave 4

- **July 31, 2018**

National Heatstroke Prevention Day

- **August 15—September 3**

Checkpoint Strikeforce

MHSO Patrol Supervisor's Conference

The Maryland Highway Safety Office (MHSO) held its **first Patrol Supervisor's Conference** in Ocean City on Monday, March 26 and Tuesday, March 27. Approximately 160 supervisors from law enforcement agencies around the State attended the interactive conference where they learned about the history of highway safety, the importance of wearing seat belts – for the public and for law enforcement, impaired driving and the rise of opioid and other nonalcoholic drugs, and stories about the aftermath of crashes from a law enforcement perspective and from victims.

The opioid crisis, as well as medical and non-medical marijuana, were major topics of discussion. Drug recognition and understanding the effects that opioids and marijuana have on driving were presented and talked about throughout the conference.

Seat belt usage by law enforcement, in addition to enforcement of Maryland's seat belt law, also was a major topic that resonated with the supervisors throughout the conference. The physics and dynamics of an unbelted crash were presented in detail. During a question and answer session, the importance of enforcing Maryland's seat belt law was brought front and center. Discussion centered around the cost of the citation for not wearing a seat belt (\$83) versus the actual offense. Multiple supervisors who had previously felt that giving out seat belt citations was too costly learned how an unbelted driver or passenger becomes a projectile missile in a crash, not only harming themselves but others in the vehicle.

(please see resource links on page 4)

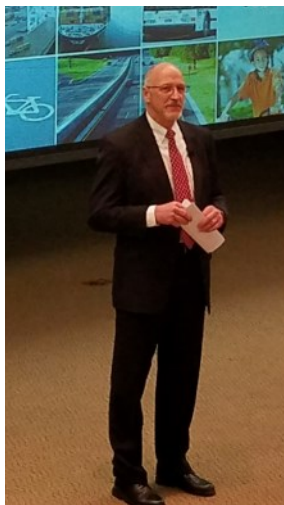


Click It or Ticket Campaign Kicks off May 21

Click It or Ticket runs from May 21 through June 3, in conjunction with the NHTSA national campaign. More than 120 unbelted drivers and passengers are killed every year in Maryland. Seat belts could have saved roughly 45 percent of those people.

Your **High Visibility Enforcement** throughout the campaign is critical to saving lives. The fine for not wearing a seat belt is \$83 (including court costs). Buckling a seat belt takes less than three seconds.

Remember – buckle up, every seat, every time. Arrive alive!



After 15 years of dedicated and loyal service to the state of Maryland, **Chief of the MDOT MVA Highway Safety Office Tom Gianni** retired. Tom's personal commitment, passion, vision, expertise, and collaboration helped make Maryland roads safer and helped establish the MHSO as a nationally recognized leader in highway safety. His positive attitude, dedication and work ethic set an example for all. We wish Tom a terrific and happy retirement.

Farewell from Tom Gianni

Dear Highway Safety Colleagues and Friends,

After 40 years in public service (25 in law enforcement and 15 with the Maryland Highway Safety Office), I retired on May 1, 2018.

I am truly privileged and thankful to have been a member of your professional community for all these years and will relish the many great memories. It is my sincerest hope that in some small way I have been able to assist in the great work you do every day to ensure the safety of all of us on our highways.

I encourage you to continue to strive for our only true goal: **Zero Traffic Fatalities and Zero Serious Injuries**. Never lose sight of the nobility of your honorable calling and above all, **Stay Safe!**

Fraternally Yours,
~Tom Gianni



Tom Gianni receives the MDOT Secretary's Citation at the MHSO Highway Safety Summit

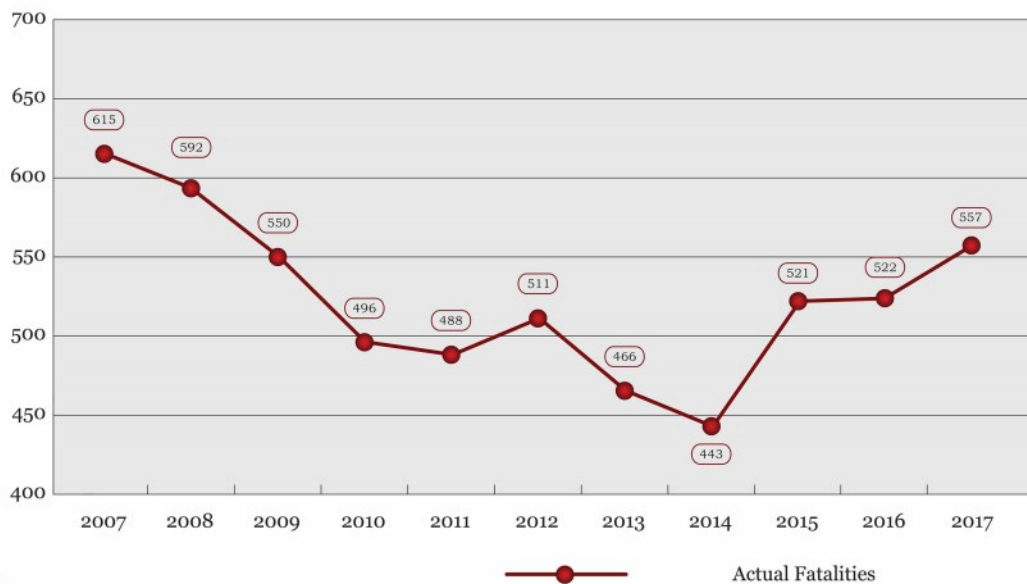
Partners Convene for Annual Highway Safety Summit

2017 Traffic Fatalities Announced

The MHSO held its annual Safety Highway Summit on Tuesday, April 24. Approximately 175 partners from the four E's of highway safety – education, enforcement, emergency medical services, and engineering – attended the daylong event. Dr. David Fowler, Maryland's Chief Medical Examiner, and Dr. Carolyn Fowler, Director at the Center for the Practice of Collaborative Leadership at Johns Hopkins Hospital, gave the keynote presentation about the opioid epidemic and how it relates to traffic safety. They also challenged the MHSO and its partners to sustain leadership roles and momentum in the traffic safety community. MDOT Secretary Pete Rahn announced the 2017 Maryland traffic fatality number. Last year 557 people were killed on Maryland roads, an increase of almost 7 percent from 2016. The rest of the day was spent in breakout sessions for the six emphasis areas of the Strategic Highway Safety Plan. The major theme throughout the sessions was how to begin reversing the deadly trend on our roads.



MARYLAND ROADWAY FATALITIES 2007 - 2017



Contact the Traffic Safety Committee Co-chairs:

Colonel Jerry Jones at wjones1@mdta.maryland.gov

Kelly Melhem at kmelhem@mdot.state.md.us

Enforcement Spotlight

Cinco de Mayo Saturation Patrol

On May 5 the Baltimore County Police Department DUI Team and Maryland State Police SPIDRE Team combined efforts for a Saturation Patrol targeting impaired drivers. Members of both teams added personnel to the effort by utilizing grant funds from the MHSO. Troopers from Golden Ring and JFK Barracks and officers from the Commercial Vehicle Team also supported with patrols. Target areas were selected using data provided by Washington College.

Cinco de Mayo Statistics (May 5—Baltimore County)

DUI Arrests	17
Citations	111
Warnings	40
Safety Equipment Repair Orders (SERO)	5

MAY IS MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH

Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month is a national campaign designed to raise awareness and urge caution as more motorcyclists hit the road.

Maryland saw a 14 percent spike in motorcycle deaths from 2016 to 2017 and data shows that about **50 percent of fatal motorcycle crashes happen on Saturdays and Sundays**. We encourage riders and drivers alike to share the responsibility of following basic safety rules, always remain aware of your surroundings, and avoid unnecessary distractions. Let's stay safe and share the road.



RESOURCE LINKS:

- “5th and Wall” —
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3XB-8bNtiV4>
- “Arrive Alive—Police Officer Safety Awareness”
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NOumgRVPerk>
- “Killer in the Back Seat” —
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3TDsJZclAmM>

