



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

May 27, 2010

### **Memorial Day Law Enforcement Saturation Patrols**

The Memorial Day Holiday is a time for friends and family all across America to gather in commemoration of the men and women of the United States Military who have sacrificed in service to and protection of our country. Unfortunately, festive celebrations can lead to opportunities for tragedy on the nation's highways.

In our continuing efforts to keep roadways and citizens safe, this Memorial Day weekend the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office will be out in full force conducting county-wide saturation patrols to prevent and/or detect impaired drivers and minors who consume alcohol. These saturation patrols operate in conjunction with our "Click it or Ticket" seatbelt and child safety seat campaigns. The enforcement patrols will be conducted both during the day and in the evening, so be sure to buckle up and stay safe.

In addition, Sheriff's Deputies will be conducting the "Cops in Shops" program. "Cops in Shops" is an undercover operation where police officers in plain clothing pose as customers or store employees in order to detect under-aged persons attempting to purchase, and/or using false identification to obtain, alcoholic beverages. "Cops in Shops" is sponsored, in part, by the Century Council and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office would like to remind citizens to "Report Drunk Driving - Call 911."

"Losing a loved one is a terrible experience, especially during America's family holiday. Losing one's life when it might have been saved by taking two seconds to buckle a seatbelt or designate a sober driver is truly senseless." (Sheriff Tim Cameron)

For further information about alcohol prevention and enforcement programs, please contact Deputy First Class James Stone at 301-863-4816 x1458.