



MEDIA RELEASE

February 28, 2013

Traffic Safety Operations

The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Traffic Safety Unit and members of the Special Operations Division conducted two separate comprehensive traffic enforcement operations last week. These operations concentrated on enforcement of various traffic safety initiatives, to include distracted driving, speeding, aggressive driving, impaired driving, occupant protection (i.e., seatbelt and child safety seat use), and young/inexperienced drivers.

On February 21, 2013, from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., an enforcement operation was conducted on Maryland Route 246/Great Mills Rd. between Maryland Route 5/Point Lookout Rd. in Great Mills and Maryland Route 235/Three Notch Rd. in Lexington Park. Great Mills Rd., which ranges between posted speed limits of 35 mph and 40 mph, is a high-crash area and frequent complaints of aggressive driving are received by the Sheriff's Office. As a result of this operation, 52 traffic stops were conducted yielding 23 citations, 40 warnings, and 5 safety equipment repair orders (SERO). An enforcement operation such as the one conducted on the evening 02/21/13 will continue to be scheduled quarterly throughout 2013.

On February 23, 2013, from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., an enforcement operation was conducted on Maryland Route 5/Point Lookout Rd. between Maryland Route 245/Hollywood Rd. and Maryland Route 234/Budds Creek Rd. in Leonardtown. Point Lookout Rd. in Leonardtown, with a posted speed limit of 40 mph, is also a location with a high volume of motor vehicle collisions and traffic complaints. As a result of this operation, 46 traffic stops were conducted yielded 34 citations, 14 warnings, and 4 SERO.

Enforcement operations have been conducted at this same location since February 2012, from either 6:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. or 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. These operations, with the assistance of the Leonardtown barrack of the Maryland State Police, will continue throughout 2013.

Motorists in St. Mary's County are encouraged to drive safely, especially on Great Mills Rd. between Great Mills and Lexington Park and Point Lookout Rd. in Leonardtown.

Please contact Sergeant Michael Butler #85, supervisor of the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Traffic Safety Unit, at (301) 475-4200 x9006 or mike.butler@stmarysmd.com for any questions or concerns regarding traffic safety or enforcement initiatives.