STATEMENT FROM COUNTY EXECUTIVE CHERYL DINOLFO & SHERIFF PATRICK O’FLYNN ON MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

Monroe County Executive and Sheriff Urge All Drivers to Exercise Caution While Driving During Motorcycle Season

“The recent number of accidents involving motorcycles over the past few weeks is concerning. As County Executive, the safety and well-being of all Monroe County residents is a top priority,” said County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo. “I urge all motorists driving either a passenger vehicle or a motorcycle to use extreme caution to avoid accidents.”

“For the safety of everyone on the road it is vitally important that drivers stay vigilant and obey all of the traffic laws,” said Sheriff Patrick O’Flynn. “During the summer months when a large number of motorcycles are on the road, an increased awareness by those sharing the roadways is imperative.”

“There are a number of educational and safety courses drivers can take to help keep our roadways safe,” added Dinolfo. “I encourage all residents interested in learning more about these courses for both passenger vehicles and motorcycles to contact their insurance agency.”

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY TIPS FROM MONROE COUNTY
www2.monroecounty.gov/safety-trafficsafety.php#MotorcycleSafety

BE VISIBLE:
- Remember that motorists often have trouble seeing motorcycles and reacting in time.
- Make sure your headlight works and is on day and night.
- Use reflective strips or decals on your clothing and on your motorcycle.
- Be aware of the blind spots cars and trucks have.
- Flash your brake light when you are slowing down and before stopping.
- If a motorist doesn’t see you, don’t be afraid to use your horn.

DRESS FOR SAFETY:
- Wear a quality helmet and eye protection.
- Wear bright clothing and a light-colored helmet.
- Wear leather or other thick, protective clothing.
• Choose long sleeves and pants, over-the-ankle boots, and gloves.
• Remember—the only thing between you and the road is your protective gear.

**APPLY EFFECTIVE MENTAL STRATEGIES:**
• Constantly search the road for changing conditions.
• Give yourself space and time to respond to other motorists’ actions.
• Give other motorists time and space to respond to you.
• Use lane positioning to be seen; ride in the part of a lane where you are most visible.
• Watch for turning vehicles.
• Signal your next move in advance.
• Avoid weaving between lanes.
• Pretend you’re invisible, and ride extra defensively.
• Don’t ride when you are tired or under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
• Know and follow the rules of the road.
• Stick to the speed limit.

**KNOW YOUR BIKE AND HOW TO USE IT:**
• Get formal training and take refresher courses.
• Call 1-800-446-9227 or visit [www.msf-usa.org](http://www.msf-usa.org) to locate the Motorcycle Safety Foundation hands-on Rider Course nearest you.
• Practice. Develop your riding techniques before going into heavy traffic. Know how to handle your bike in conditions such as wet or sandy roads, high winds, and uneven surfaces.

Please contact the Monroe County Office of Traffic Safety to arrange a safety presentation:
Jean Triest Phone: 585 753-3018

**SAFETY TIPS FOR OPERATORS OF OTHER VEHICLES**

**Keep an eye out for motorcyclists.** Operators of other vehicles are urged to look out for motorcycles sharing the road. Visit the Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee’s website for more information and traffic safety tips [www.safeny.ny.gov/index.htm](http://www.safeny.ny.gov/index.htm).

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