

**For Details, Contact:**  
**Sgt. Jim Tigner**  
La Habra Police Department  
Traffic Unit  
Phone (562) 383-4344  
jtigner@lahabracalifornia.gov



La Habra Police Department  
150 N. Euclid Street  
La Habra, CA 90631  
Phone (562) 383-4300  
Fax (562) 383-4492

# La Habra Police Department Press Release

## **La Habra Police Department Receives Grant For Special Traffic Enforcement and Crash Prevention**

**La Habra, CA** – The La Habra Police Department has been awarded a **\$230,000.00** 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. The La Habra 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.

*“Traffic safety continues to be a high priority for our community. This funding provided by OTS will help us greatly in making our streets safer from motorists who disobey the laws, as well as assist us in helping to better educate drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians in La Habra. Our goal is to reduce traffic collisions, apprehend DUI drivers, and in doing so, reduce injuries and deaths on our roadways. We look forward to our continued partnership with OTS,”* said Chief Jerry Price of the La Habra Police Department.

After falling to a ten-year low in 2010, the number of persons killed on roadways has climbed nearly 17 percent across the state, with 3,429 fatalities in 2015. Particularly alarming is the rise in pedestrian and bicycle fatalities that now comprise nearly 25 percent of all traffic deaths, along with the growing dangers of distracting technologies and the emergence of drug-impaired driving. This grant funding will provide opportunities to combat these and other devastating problems such as speeding and crashes at intersections.

*“Unsafe behaviors account for 94 percent of traffic crashes,”* said OTS Director Rhonda Craft. *“This grant emphasizes the two most effective ways to change behaviors – education and enforcement. The La Habra Police Department, with assistance from the Office of Traffic Safety, will use these tools to help keep La Habra streets safe.”*

Activities that the grant will fund include:

**For Immediate Press Release**  
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- 3 Educational presentations
  - Included in these presentations are two BMX stunt safety shows to our two public middle schools – these promote the importance of proper helmet use
  - LHPD will be providing 40 free bicycle helmets to children throughout the grant
- 2 DUI checkpoints
- 18 DUI saturation patrols
- 2 Bicycle and pedestrian safety enforcement operations
- 2 Motorcycle safety enforcement operations
- 6 Distracted driving enforcement operations
- 1 Seat belt and child safety seat enforcement operation
- 24 Speed, red light, and stop sign enforcement operations
- 1 full time DUI officer assignment
- 1 Warrant service operation
- Additional training certification classes for officers in DUI detection

While alcohol remains the worst offender for DUI crashes, the La Habra Police Department supports the new effort from OTS that aims to drive awareness that “DUI Doesn’t Just Mean Booze.” Prescription medications and marijuana can also be impairing by themselves, or in combination with alcohol, and can result in a DUI arrest.

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



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