



Oakland Police Department

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Chief of Police

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**For Immediate Release**

## **SAFE OAKLAND STREETS (SOS)**

*Oakland Police Department taking a Proactive Approach to Sideshows*

**OAKLAND, (CALIF)** - This weekend marks the launch of the Oakland Police Department's enhanced enforcement on weekend nights in the East Oakland neighborhoods that have seen illegal cruising activities in past years. Effective immediately, the Oakland Police Department has implemented the following:

- Assigned 4 squads of officers dedicated to strict traffic enforcement.
- Created a process to streamline the towing and/or seizure of vehicles.
- Created a partnership for enhanced charging when people engage in illegal activity at the sideshow.

Individuals participating in illegal cruising activities potentially face criminal charges and the seizure of their vehicle. The Department will continue to work with community members to increase the overall safety of the area. Chief Batts says: "As Oakland's Police Chief, it is my responsibility to both crack down on illegal activity that endangers lives and explore all available options for protecting the residents and neighborhoods of Oakland. We will continue to investigate and enforce illegal sideshows as we have done in the past, but we are simultaneously looking to develop new techniques."

For more information, please contact the Media Relations Office at 510.238.7230 or [opdmedia@oaklandnet.com](mailto:opdmedia@oaklandnet.com).