



City of
OAKLAND
California

Media Contact:

Officer Johnna Watson
Officer Marco Marquez
(510) 238-7230
OPDMedia@oaklandnet.com

News from: **Oakland Police Department**



For Immediate Release

April 27, 2017

May Is Motorcycle Safety Month; Riders Urged to Get Trained and Ride Safely

Improving Motorcycle Safety Aim of Oakland Police Department

Oakland, CA – The Oakland Police Department (OPD) is joining law enforcement statewide and across the United States in National Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month special enforcement operations. In addition, the California Motorcyclist Safety Program is offering special, low-cost rider training classes during the month of May.

OPD will be conducting specialized Motorcycle Safety Enforcement Operations during May in an effort to lower deaths and injuries. Extra officers will be patrolling areas frequented by motorcyclists and where motorcycle crashes occur. Officers will be looking for violations that can lead to motorcycle crashes: driving or riding under the influence of drugs or alcohol, speeding, making illegal turns, or any other dangerous violation.

California motorcycle fatalities saw a phenomenal drop of 37 percent from 2008 to 2010, but by 2015, fatalities had risen 31 percent. Special enforcement and training efforts are aimed not only at curbing increases in motorcycle deaths, but reducing the number of fatalities. Over the course of the past 3 years, motorcycle-involved collisions have resulted in 211 injury and 9 fatal crashes in Oakland.

The California Motorcyclist Safety Program (CMSP) training program is offering a “Total Control Refresher Training” course during May. This four-hour riding class is for experienced riders with a current motorcycle license. Riders will use their own street-legal motorcycle during the class taught by CMSP-certified instructors at a cost of only \$95. Log onto the CMSP website (<http://cmsp.msi5.com>) to register at a location near you.

New motorcycle riders are urged to get basic training through the California Motorcyclist Safety Program. Information and training locations are available at <http://www.californiamotorcyclist.com> or 1-877-RIDE-411 (1-877-743-3411).

Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The message to all drivers and motorcyclists is: share in the responsibility and do your part by safely “sharing the road.”

###