



For Immediate Release
Slow Down – take a SECOND look around!
It is Motorcycle Safety Month

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Lima, Ohio (May 15, 2020) The weather has finally warmed and motorcycles are out. Motorcycle riders are reminded to obey traffic laws, wear DOT-compliant helmets, and other protective gear; also, be visible by wearing bright colors or maybe even using reflective tape. Drivers of cars, trucks, and buses are reminded to look out for, and share the road with, motorcycle riders. Increasing cooperation among ALL road users will help to reduce crashes. Let's ALL work together to make this month a motorcycle-crash free month . . . and rest of the motorcycle season too.

In Allen County during 2019, there were 45 motorcycle crashes, resulting in 38 people injured and 2 fatalities. Over the last decade, 18 motorcyclists died in Allen County and 384 were injured in 451 crashes.

Motorcycle, Ohio! and the Lima-Allen County Safe Community Coalition want to remind all of our friends sharing area roadways to be especially safe . . . Slow down - take a SECOND look around! Motorcyclists are riding everywhere on area roadways.

The American Motorcyclists' Association and the Motorcycle Safety Foundation have provided safety rules - "Five Rules" for motorcyclists and drivers:

Five Rules for Riders -

- **Get Trained and Licensed** - enroll in Motorcycle, Ohio!
- **Wear Protective Gear** - especially a helmet!
- **Ride Unimpaired** - never drink or use other drugs before getting on your motorcycle!
- **Ride Within Your Limits** – stay within your personal limits, never riding faster or farther than your abilities can handle!
- **Be Life Long Learners** – return regularly for a refresher riding course!

Five Rules for Drivers -

- **Look Out for Motorcycles** – use your mirrors & take a SECOND look around!
- **Don't be Distracted** – hang up and drive. Put down the food, the pet, the personal grooming gear, the cell phone, and the reading materials – Whatever is distracting you - save it for later!
- **Use Your Turn Signals** – signal your intentions. It's the law!
- **Give Motorcycles Some Room** – don't tailgate or drive too close or ride side-by-side a motorcycle!
- **Keep it in the Car** - Don't throw trash and cigarettes out the window, and securely lash down cargo that can fall out on the road and be a deadly hazard for motorcyclists.