

Delaware General Health District
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NEWS RELEASE

CYCLIST WAS LONE MAY TRAFFIC FATALITY IN DELAWARE COUNTY

P.O. Box 570 1-3 W. Winter St. Delaware OH 43015
740-368-1700 FAX 740-368-1736 Web Site: www.delawarehealth.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For further information contact Jesse Carter, public information officer, at 740-203-2085.

DELAWARE, Oh., June 15, 2009 – Delaware County’s lone traffic death during May occurred in a horrific late-night motorcycle crash.

Witnesses told investigators that the high-performance Yamaha motorcycle might have been traveling more than 100 mph where Sawmill Road becomes Sawmill Parkway at the Delaware-Franklin county line around 1 a.m. May 16. The northbound cyclist failed to negotiate the first curve. He was not wearing a helmet, and his head impacted a guardrail, leaving him dead at the scene. Tests conducted after the accident showed the cyclist’s blood alcohol content was above the legal limit.

“This person took way too many safety risks, and paid with his life,” said Gail Root, Coordinator of the Safe Communities Program at the Delaware General Health District.

Although the cyclist was the fifth traffic fatality in Delaware County in 2009, overall local traffic fatalities are down compared to the same time in each of the last two years. There was one traffic death here in May 2008.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, each traffic death carries a combined cost of more than \$3.3 million.