

Delaware General Health District
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A Safe Communities Grantee of the Ohio Department of Public Safety

NEWS RELEASE

DELAWARE COUNTY HAS NO JANUARY TRAFFIC DEATHS FOR SECOND YEAR

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DELAWARE, Oh., Feb. 25, 2010 -- The Delaware County Safe Communities program is pleased to report that there were zero traffic deaths in Delaware County for the second January in a row.

In Ohio, January is the month that historically sees the lowest number of highway fatalities. According to the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Ohio averaged 83 January highway deaths in 2006-2008, compared to 125 per month during June, July, and August.

The Ohio Highway Patrol reported that Delaware County had 19 highway crash deaths last year. Delaware County averaged 14 highway deaths per year in 2006-2008. Despite the local rise in fatalities, last year's statewide highway death toll was the lowest ever since records have been kept.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that nationwide, traffic crash deaths declined 7 percent in the first half of 2009. According to NHTSA, each fatality has a comprehensive cost of \$3,366,388.

To make the rest of 2010 as safe as January, the Delaware County Safe Communities /Safe Kids Coalition suggests that drivers always buckle up; drive responsibly; avoid distractions; and never, never drive impaired by alcohol, drugs, or drowsiness.