

# **Delaware General Health District**

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*A Safe Communities Grantee of the Ohio Department of Public Safety*

## NEWS RELEASE

### ONE FEBRUARY TRAFFIC FATALITY ON DELAWARE COUNTY HIGHWAYS

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

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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

**DELAWARE, Oh., March 17, 2010** -- The Delaware County Safe Communities Program reports that there was one traffic fatality in February in Delaware County. The crash involved a car, a pickup truck and a sport-utility vehicle. The crash occurred at 3:55 p.m. on Feb. 1 at Polaris Parkway and Worthington Road in Westerville. Richard Crabtree, 46, of Westerville died of injuries suffered in the crash. The other two drivers were taken to Mt. Carmel St. Ann's Hospital.

The cause of the crash is still under investigation by Westerville Police. It appears that drugs and alcohol were not involved and weather was not a factor.

Delaware County also recorded just one highway fatality in February 2009. The Polaris crash was the first highway fatality of this year in Delaware County.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that annually there are 1,747 fatalities and 841,000 injuries in non-traffic crashes and non-crash incidents. The Delaware Safe Communities/Safe Kids Coalition would like to remind you that it is important to keep safety with vehicles in mind at all times, not just when driving in heavy traffic.

For additional safe driving tips, visit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at <http://nhtsa.gov> .

The Safe Communities program was developed through the Ohio Department of Public Safety to encourage community safety partnerships throughout Ohio.