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UMES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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SIDNE



SIDNE (Simulated Impaired Driving Experience) Presentation was sponsored by the UMES Counseling Services, State Farm Insurance Company, and Maryland Highway Administration on May 2, 2006. SIDNE is a go-cart that simulates the effects of driving under the influence of alcohol and other drugs. This program provides hands-on experience and dispels the myth that one can drive competently under the influence.

Special points of interest:

- Lock all doors and windows
- Report suspicious activity
- Keep valuables secured
- Be cautious of aggressive drivers
- Buckle Up!

PROTECT YOUR BELONGINGS

We are all aware of the recent rash of thefts of laptops and books. You can help deter theft by making sure all doors are locked. Keep all



valuables out of plain view in your vehicles. Report suspicious activity immediately. Call the department at 410-651-6590

AGGRESSIVE DRIVING

Take the Driver Stress Test to measure your hostility on the roadway to find out if you are an aggressive driver?

- Get angry at slow drivers.
- Get angry when cut off.
- Get angry at traffic jams.
- Get angry at tailgaters.
- Impatient at stoplights.
- Impatient waiting for parking space.
- Challenge other drivers.
- Block cars trying to pass you.
- Ride another car's tail.

If you can identify with the questions above. You might be an aggressive driver.

An aggressive driver is defined as a combination of unsafe and unlawful driving actions, and have no disregard for safety. Aggressive drivers contribute to many negative actions on the highway such as; tailgating, improper pass-



ing, failing to yield the right of way, and unsafe lane changes.

There are several precautions you can take to help prevent road rage.

How to avoid being an aggressive driver:

- Allow more travel time to get to your destination.
- Obey posted speed limits.
- Let other drivers merge with you.
- Don't follow other drivers too closely.

How to avoid aggressive drivers:

- Get out of their way
- Ignore rude gestures and refuse to return them
- Don't challenge them on the road
- Avoid eye contact

These are important key factors to remember before you hit the road and while heading to your destination.

SMOOTH OPERATOR PROGRAM

The Smooth Operator program started in 1997, with partnering law enforcement agencies in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington D.C. to combat aggressive driving

behaviors on the road. The Smooth Operator Program is design to provide solutions for aggressive driving and public safety. Aggressive driving is the number one

cause of traffic accidents even ahead of drunk driving.

Research conducted for the Smooth Operator Program of DC, Maryland and Virginia by Riter Research Inc.

DRIVER FATIGUE

Most people are educated about the dangers of drinking and driving but don't realize that sleepiness and drowsiness are a dangerous combination when driving. Driving fatigue can be just as fatal as any other contributing factor in vehicle accidents. Alcohol and sleepiness are both alike when behind the wheel. Both alcohol and fatigue are known to decrease awareness, slow reaction time, and impairs judgment. Driver fatigue is often overlooked due to a drivers' daily routine and driving pattern.



Sleep deprivation causes a delay in response time, and leads to vehicle accidents. Statistics by the NSF, *Sleep in America poll*.

- 60% of Americans have driven while sleepy
- 37% admit to actually falling asleep at the wheel
- 15% of all commercial driver crashes involve fatigue
- Over 1,550 deaths each year result from fatigue
- Estimated 100,000 police-reported crashes

According to the National Sleep Foundation, adults between the age of 18 -29 are more likely to drive while drowsy.

FINAL EXAMS



This is a friendly reminder to all students that we are all aware the semester is quickly coming to an end. Most students will be up late studying in the library or using the computer lab. Let's be mindful of those who are studying. We ask that you keep your music volume to a minimum.

"GOOD LUCK ON YOUR EXAMS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATES"

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We're on the web:
www.umes.edu/police

HAVE A SAFE SUMMER

REMEMBER TO BUCKLE UP

ROAD SAFETY

FEW QUICK TIPS OF ROAD SAFETY

- ✓ Make regular basic checks on your vehicle
- ✓ Keep a small survival kit in trunk
- ✓ Have knowledge of roads you are traveling
- ✓ Keep all valuables out of plain view
- ✓ Check tire pressure
- ✓ Cell phone available for emergency
- ✓ When traveling, tell someone your destination

