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May 8, 2014

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Media Release

Motorcyclists Encouraged to Ride Safely to Ride Again

Speed, Inexperience, Alcohol Primary Causes of Nevada Motorcycle Crashes

Fifty-three motorcyclists died on Nevada roadways in 2013, surpassing the previous year's number of fatalities by 39 percent, according to the Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety (OTS).

Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval proclaimed May 2014 as Motorcycle Safety Month, focusing on the motorcycle as an important form of transportation, and reminding its riders and all motorists of important safety guidelines.

Nevada crash data shows the most common factors involved in fatal crashes are speed, rider inexperience and the presence of alcohol. Those most often involved in a crash are riders under 25-years old and riders over the age of 50.

As the weather warms up, OTS wants motorcyclists to enjoy the fresh air and their ride. That means operating their vehicles and behaving safely. Always wear a DOT-compliant helmet, eye protection, gloves, riding jacket and sturdy shoes or boots. Be seen by wearing high-visibility riding gear, ride within the speed limit and stay out of the blind spots of cars and trucks.

It is important for motorcyclists and vehicle drivers to share the road. Motorists should give bikers an entire travel lane, keep four seconds behind a motorcyclist and watch for riders, especially before turning left.

Motorcyclists can also take part in safe rider education programs. Class schedules, locations and fees can be found on www.NevadaRider.com.

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