



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month and the Ventura Police Department reminds drivers to check twice for motorcycles**

**Ventura, Calif.** — During May's Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, the Ventura Police Department encourages drivers to always look twice for motorcycles.

"Motorcycles may be difficult to spot, so being extra careful before changing lanes is always good practice," said Motor Officer Kyle Halverson. "When it comes to motorcycles, there is no margin for errors. Motorcycle riders should also wear high-visibility personal protective gear and Department of Transportation compliant helmets."

Throughout the month, the Ventura Police Department will conduct education and enforcement operations aimed at keeping motorcyclists safe.

To help protect you and your family, keep the following tips in mind while driving or riding:

#### Drivers

- Check mirrors and blind spots before changing lanes.
- Always keep a safe distance.
- If you see a motorcycle with a signal on, be sure that the rider is turning before moving ahead.

#### Motorcyclists

- Wear leather or other sturdy clothing such as a jacket, pants, boots with nonskid soles, and gloves. Add reflective strips or decals to your clothing and motorcycle to make it easier for other drivers to see you.
- Ride defensively. Don't assume a driver can see you.
- Always keep your lights on, even during the day.

Both drivers and riders should never drive distracted or under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

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