



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHP UNVEILS NEW TEEN DRIVER PROGRAM

Motor vehicle collisions nationwide are the leading cause of death for teenage drivers.

California has the second highest fatality rate involving drivers between the ages of 15-20. "This tragic loss of young lives is a concern to us, and we hope this program can reduce the death toll," stated CHP Captain Sandra Houston.

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) is teaming up with local teenagers and their parents/guardians to kick off a program specifically geared towards the reduction of collisions and injuries involving teen drivers. This innovative program is called "Start Smart."

Start Smart addresses traffic safety issues that directly affect new drivers in a way no other program does. Start Smart speaks directly to the newly licensed drivers and their parents/guardians. This program entails collision avoidance techniques, collision causing elements, driver responsibilities, a number of testimonials from parents whose children have perished in collisions, and local area traffic collision trends.

Start Smart makes teens and parents aware of the responsibilities they face and teaches what precautions to take to stay safe. Classes will be held at the

San Juan Capistrano CHP office, located at 32951 Camino Capistrano,

San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675. The next class will be held on February 6 from

7:00 P.M. to 8:45 P.M. There will be one class every month during 2008.

All attendees must call the CHP at (949) 487-4000 to reserve their seats.