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More Missourians ARRIVED ALIVE in 2010

Missouri Meets 2012 Goal Two Years Early

Jan. 25, 2011 – For immediate release

JEFFERSON CITY, MO – More people arrived alive on Missouri roads in 2010, the fifth year in a row with a reduction in roadway fatalities. Currently, the number of fatalities stands at 821 for 2010 – which means 436 lives were saved last year alone. Missouri has met its goal of 850 or fewer roadway fatalities by the end of 2012 – two years early!

“These numbers show we’re saving lives on Missouri highways, and that’s a great thing,” said Kevin Keith, director of the Missouri Department of Transportation. “That means more people we know and love are making it home safely.”

Not since 1949 has Missouri seen so few people killed in highway crashes. Overall since 2005, due to the combined efforts of highway safety advocates in the Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety, 1,538 lives have been saved on Missouri roadways, a decrease of 35 percent. The coalition credits a combination of law enforcement, educational efforts, emergency medical services, engineering enhancements and public policy as the successful formula for saving lives.

"The Patrol is committed to further reducing the number of all traffic crashes in Missouri. We will continue to work with the public, other law enforcement agencies, and our partners on the Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety," said Missouri State Highway Patrol Superintendent Colonel Ronald K. Replogle.

In 2007, Missouri recorded fewer than 1,000 fatalities for the first time in more than 15 years. This allowed the coalition to meet an ambitious goal one year early. In October 2008, the coalition announced a new goal for traffic fatality reductions at 850 or less by 2012. The last time Missouri reached less than 850 fatalities was 1949.

Besides law enforcement and education, other measures aimed at decreasing fatalities and serious injuries for this year include focusing on topics like run-off road crashes, distracted driving, impaired driving, and new engineering solutions for decreasing traffic crashes.

For more information, visit www.saveMOLives.com. Buckle Up to Arrive Alive.

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