FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUMMIT COUNTY SAFE COMMUNITIES:
CLICK IT OR TICKET

Summit County, OH — The County of Summit has been at work on a Safe Communities Grant awarded by the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Traffic Safety Office. The $81,085.23 in grant funding is aimed at promoting County-wide traffic safety initiatives like Click it or Ticket, Drive Sober or get Pulled Over, Don't Text and Drive and Watch out for Motorcycles. Safe Communities’ ultimate goal is to reduce the total number of traffic accidents and fatalities in Summit County.

On Friday May 15, 2015, Safe Communities hosted a Press Conference at 10:00 am in the Summit County Emergency Operations Center. The main focus of the event was Click it or Ticket as the national crackdown for Click it or Ticket runs from May 18 to May 31 for 2015. Safe Communities announced that during the crackdown they will be attending an Akron Rubber Ducks game to talk about and distribute Click it or Ticket.
information and materials at the Rubber Duck’s Education Day on Wednesday May 20, 2015 and two other games on June 10, 2015 and August 20, 2015. Safe Communities also be attending numerous Rubber City Harley Davidson events including Bikes, Burgers and Blues Fest, AA Founders Day, its 3rd Anniversary Party and several more.

Speakers at the Press Conference in order of appearance included: Steve Wilkins – AGMC, Capt. Dale Gooding – UAPD, Sgt. Todd Belcher – Ohio State Highway Patrol, Summit County Sheriff Steve Barry, Lori Pesci – Summit County Department of Public Safety, Bryan Herschel – Summit County Executive Office, and Drew Reilly – Summit County Executive Office. The press conference highlighted what each agency has been doing and plans to do in the upcoming months to promote the above-mentioned traffic safety initiatives.

The program is driven by monthly coalition meetings with other agencies who have a stake in traffic safety. Participants in the Coalition include the Summit County Executive’s Office, Summit County Sherriff’s Office, Summit County Engineer’s Office, Summit County Public Health, the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services Board, Akron General Medical Center (“AGMC”), Akron Children’s Hospital, Summa Health Systems, Western Reserve Hospital, Ohio State Highway Patrol, Ohio Department of Transportation, Akron Municipal Court, Akron Police Department, The University of Akron Police Department (“UAPD”), Rubber City Radio Group, Fairlawn BMV, and AAA - Akron.

Safe Communities also announced their coordination with Akron Public Schools to distribute information for the Don’t Text and Drive campaign to high school students for each school’s prom week. The cards not only describe the dangers of texting and driving, but also the penalties for being caught doing so as set forth in Ohio’s Texting and Driving Law passed on June 1, 2012. Safe Communities also indicated that they are working in conjunction with Akron Public Schools to bring a program called Cinema Drive to two of the District’s high schools in late September. The program is a 3-dimensional interactive video learning experience that emphasizes the dangers of all of Safe Communities’ initiatives.

Links to Safe Communities on Facebook and Twitter can be found here: https://www.facebook.com/safecommunityssummitcounty https://twitter.com/SummitCountySC

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