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Speed a Little, Lose a Lot Campaign is April 11-17

Famed NASCAR driver Bobby Labonte has a message for all North Carolinians: speeding belongs on the racetrack - not the highway.

That's the point Labonte emphasized during the kickoff of the Speed a Little, Lose a Lot enforcement campaign on March 11 at the NASCAR Technical Institute (NTI) in Mooresville. Labonte joined staff with the N.C. Governor's Highway Safety Program, NTI, Mooresville Police Chief Ron Campurciani and other law enforcement to kick off the weeklong speeding crackdown effort. The campaign runs through April 17.

"The skill level you need to control a car at high speeds takes a lot of practice, and you have to know your ability and limitations," said Labonte. "Racecars are built strong and for safety, and I have equipment like a helmet and fireproof suit that you don't have when you're driving a street car. That's why we have speed limits and need to follow them. I'm always aware of that when I'm on the road."

North Carolina law enforcement officers will step up enforcement of speeding motorists from April 11-17. Speed-related fatalities have increased 17 percent in the past five years, with 424 people dying in speed-related crashes statewide in 2021 alone. "Over the past few years, North Carolina has seen an alarming uptick in speed-related crashes," said Mark Ezzell, director of the N.C. Governor's Highway Safety Program. "Motorists are too often using the roads as their own personal NASCAR tracks, and vehicle crash deaths have skyrocketed in the past few years. As the weather warms and vacation season approaches, let's all do our parts to keep each other safe and avoid tragedy on our roadways."

The faster a vehicle travels, the more likely it is to be involved in a fatal crash. A crash on a road with a speed limit of 65 mph or higher is five times as likely as a road where the speed limit is below 40 mph.

Motorists also don't save time by speeding up. For instance, it takes just 49 seconds longer to travel two miles at 45 mph than it does if you're going 65 mph.

As always, the N.C. Governor's Highway Safety Program encourages motorists to slow down, buckle up and never drive distracted or impaired.

Here are more facts related to speeding in North Carolina Speeding is a major cause of injuries and deaths on NC roadways. Consider these 2021 statistics:

- 424 people died in speeding-related crashes in North Carolina in 2021.
- Speeding was a contributing factor in nearly 25 percent of all fatal crashes.
- 91 percent of speed-related fatalities occurred on non-interstate roads; 9 percent occurred on interstate highways.
- From 2017 to 2021, males made up the largest percentage (75 percent) of speed related crash fatalities. Males under the age of 39 account for nearly half of all speeding-related crashes.
- From 2017 to 2021, there was a 17 percent increase in speed-related crash fatalities.
- From 2017 to 2021, 27 percent of speed related crash fatalities occurred in the Top 5 Counties (Mecklenburg, Guilford, Wake, Robeson and Cumberland)

The Governor's Highway Safety Program's Speed a Little. Lose a Lot. annual campaign reminds drivers of the dangers of speeding and the potential consequences: the loss of a life.

Dangers of Speeding A crash on a road with a speed limit of 65 mph or higher is more than twice as likely to result in a fatality as a crash where the speed limit is 45 or 50 mph, and nearly five times as likely as a crash where the speed limit is below 40 mph. Speeding: Reduces a driver's ability to negotiate curves or maneuver around obstacles in the roadway • Extends the distance traveled before a vehicle can stop • Increases the distance a vehicle travels while the driver reacts to a hazard • Increases the risk of crashes and injuries, because other vehicles and pedestrians might not be able to judge distance correctly

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Anson County Domestic Violence Coalition (ACDVC) is seeking a part-time Crisis Intervention Advocate. This position would be on call after-hours Monday through Thursday, from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m. Weekends starting at Friday at 4:00 p.m. until Monday at 8:00 a.m.

Must be able to carry cell phone while on call, have own transportation, be able to stay in Anson County while on call, pass a drug test, be compassionate, understanding, and non-judgmental, and keep all confidentiality agreements. Be able to do training for position.

If interested you may bring resume to the office:

Anson County Domestic Violence Coalition
204 East Wade Street in Wadesboro
Office hours are Monday through Friday
8:00am until 4:00pm.

or mail it to:
P. O. Box 694, Wadesboro, NC 28170

or email to: karendv129@yahoo.com
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