## Courts, Communities, & Classrooms: Educating the Public About the Law



# Presented By Sue Kennedy

Court Administrator City of Corinth SPONSORED BY: TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TEXAS MUNICIPAL COURTS EDUCATION CENTER

STATE BAR OF TEXAS LAW FOCUSED EDUCATION, INC

### **Objectives**

# Make traffic safety a high priority in local communities

- Via municipal courts
- Via public outreach by court personnel
  - Civic, community & school groups
    City officials
- Via public schools
  - Lessons & resources
  - Teacher training



### Why Municipal Courts?

- 923 courts in Texas
- 7.5 million cases
- 82.5 % traffic and parking
- 390,589 juvenile cases
- 1,537 judges
- (FY 10 & 11 Annual Reports OCA)



### Why TMCEC?

#### <u>Clerks</u>

Act as the liaison between the public and the judiciary
Are respected in the community

- Judges • Represent our system
- of justice
- Symbol of authorityMagistrates and trial
- Magistrates
   judges

#### Clerks and Judges

- Are experts
- Make it interesting and interactive
- Serve as role models for young people & citizens
- of all ages
- More citizens come in contact than any other court

#### From Courtroom to Classrooms

- Each Year over <u>5,000</u> teens ages 16 to 20 die due to Fatal injuries caused car accidents.
- About <u>400,000</u> drivers age 16 to 20 will be seriously injured.
- For 16 to 19 year olds, the risk of being involved in a car accident is higher than it is for any other age group.

### Municipal Traffic Safety Initiatives

Did you know:

- Young drivers between the ages of <u>15 and 20</u>, comprise <u>6.5%</u> of the licensed population
  - High number injured or killed due to speed, DUI, failure to wear a seat belt and other poor driving habits.
- Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death of 15-20 year olds.
- NHTSA reported that <u>23%</u> of the young drivers between the ages of 15 and 20, who were killed in crashes, had a BAC of .08 or higher.

Mile for mile, teenagers are involved in three times as many fatal crashes as all other drivers.



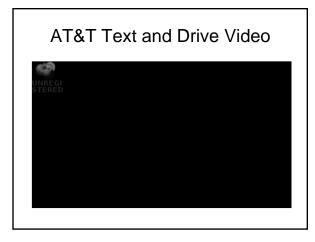




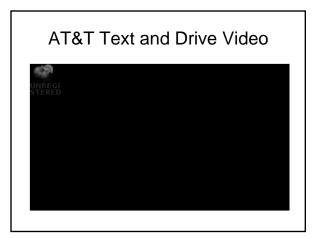
















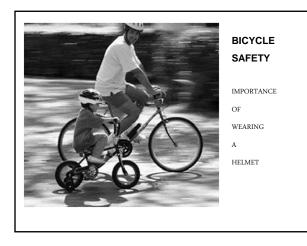


### Motorcycle Safety



All motorists are reminded to safely "share the road" with motorcycles and to be extra alert to help keep motorcyclists safe. Motorcyclists are reminded to make themselves visible to other motorists.

Motorcycle helmets saved 1,829 motorcyclists' lives in 2008







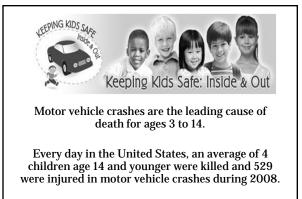


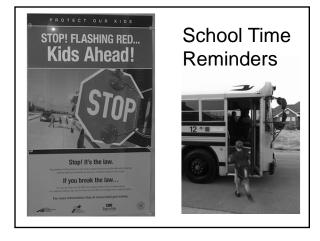


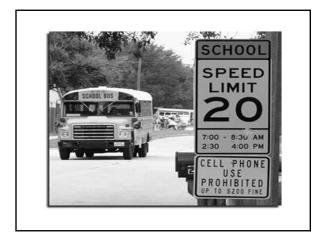
GREETINGS TRAFFIC SAFETY REMINDERS



# PUBLIC SERVICE DISPLAYS









#### From Courtroom to Classrooms The Court's Involvement in Public Schools

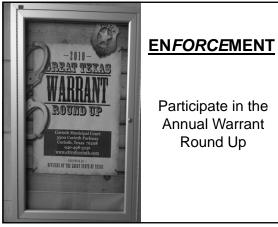
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- series of lessons for social studies classes Law Related Education (LRE)
   Colorful and interactive
- elementary, secondary, and high school levels - focus on citizenship education and traffic safety.
- · Municipal judges and court personnel
  - materials on the TMCEC website
  - Offer to participate in classroom as resource persons.
  - providing real life or hypothetical examples,

  - accurate descriptions of law
     serve as positive role models.

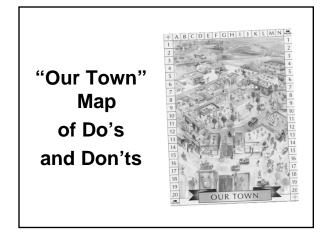


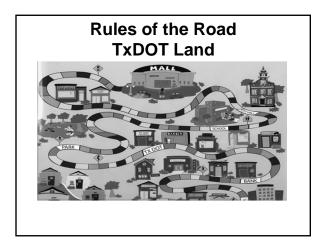
Older adults are generally capable, conscientious drivers, but some have experienced changes associated with normal aging, with medical conditions common in older adults, or medications to address those medical conditions that undermine their ability to drive safely.



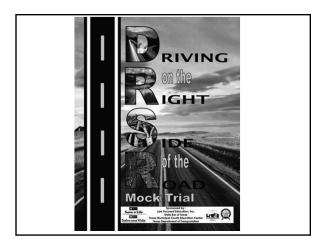
Annual Warrant

















# Mark Your Calendar



TMCEC Traffic Safety Conference

March 19-21, 2012(M-T-W) Addison, Texas

www.tmcec.com