



Long Beach Police Department

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Jim McDonnell, Chief of Police

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE #2010

Subject : MOTORISTS ARE URGED TO DRIVE CAREFULLY AS STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL

Contact : MEDIA RELATIONS (562) 570-5273

The Long Beach Police Department would like to remind everyone that school begins Wednesday, September 8, 2010, and the volume of pedestrian traffic around schools increases significantly. In an effort to prevent avoidable accidents, the following traffic safety information is being provided.

Drivers are reminded to:

- Yield the right of way to pedestrians in marked or unmarked crosswalks
- Not overtake and pass a vehicle stopped ahead of you when it has stopped for a pedestrian
- Yield the right of way to pedestrians on sidewalks
- Obey the posted speed limit
- Not drive while distracted – examples include using a cell phone (which is illegal), reading, eating, drinking or putting on make-up
- Stop and remain stopped for school buses with "flashing red lights," and opposing traffic must also stop unless a painted or raised divider separates the roadway
- Watch and obey crossing guards-they are there to protect our children!

Pedestrians are reminded to:

- Yield to vehicles on the roadway if you are outside the crosswalk
- Not cross between the intersections controlled by traffic signals (to do so would constitute jaywalking)

Parents are reminded to:

- Obey all parking signs and curb markings – they are designed to protect our children and provide optimum traffic flow
- Follow school drop off procedures and always drop your child off on the curbside of the school

- Teach your child to always cross the street at a crosswalk, and look both ways before doing so

The Long Beach Police Department's Traffic Section is committed to motorist and pedestrian safety, and traffic laws will be strictly enforced at and around our schools. For further information, please contact the Long Beach Police Department's Traffic Section at (562) 570-7209.

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