



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

A STATE ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

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Media Release

From: Corporal Wendy McGinnis
Public Information Officer, 352-754-6830

Re: Florida's "Move Over Law" Special Operations Plan

Date: November 04, 2011

Beginning November 7, 2011, at 7:00 a.m. until November 11, 2011 at 3:00 p.m., the Hernando County Sheriff's Office will be strictly enforcing Florida's Move Over law. Hernando County deputies will be utilizing both marked and unmarked patrol units throughout the county in an effort to keep emergency personnel safe while conducting traffic stops, working accidents, or assisting disabled motorists. Deputies who observe a violation of the Move Over law will take one or more of the following actions:

- Explain the importance of the Move Over law
- Issue verbal or written warnings for violations of the Mover Over Law
- Effectively educate motorists about the specifics of the Move Over law
- Issue a citation for violations of the Move Over law

The following is detailed information about F.S.S. 316.126 (b), Florida's Move Over law:

316.126 Operation of vehicles on approach of authorized emergency vehicle.--

(b) When an authorized emergency vehicle making use of any visual signals is parked or a wrecker displaying amber rotating or flashing lights is performing a recovery or loading on the roadside, the driver of every other vehicle, as soon as it is safe:

1. Shall vacate the lane closest to the emergency vehicle or wrecker when driving on an interstate highway or other highway with two or more lanes traveling in the direction of the emergency vehicle or wrecker, except when otherwise directed by a law enforcement officer. If such movement cannot be safely accomplished, the driver shall reduce speed as provided in subparagraph 2.
2. Shall slow to a speed that is 20 miles per hour less than the posted speed limit when the posted speed limit is 25 miles per hour or greater; or travel at 5 miles per hour when the posted speed limit is 20 miles per hour or less, when driving on a two-lane road, except when otherwise directed by a law enforcement officer.

A breach of the Move Over law is a non-moving violation with a fine of \$141 payable to the Hernando County Clerk of Court.

“Deputy safety is the highest priority here at the Sheriff’s Office,” said Sheriff Al Nienhuis.

“Any time emergency personnel stop on the side of the road, whether to conduct a traffic stop, conduct a vehicle crash investigation, or assist a disabled motorist, the first responder needs to focus on the task at hand. Although this law does not guarantee safety for emergency personnel working the roads, when obeyed, this law can significantly reduce the likelihood personnel will be struck by a passing vehicle.”