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**Montana Highway Patrol and National Safety Council
Aim to Save Teen Drivers Lives**

Itasca, Ill. – A new partnership aims to save teen drivers lives on the road. Motor-vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for young people ages 15 to 20. In 2007, 66 young drivers were killed and another 2,900 sustained injuries on Montana roads. To reduce these numbers, the Montana Highway Patrol (MHP) and the Montana Department of Transportation (MDOT) are partnering with the National Safety Council (NSC) to offer “Alive at 25,” an innovative program that aims to keep young drivers safe.

“Alive at 25” will be available to all high schools, colleges and community groups in all eight MHP districts. Instructors are Troopers and School Safety Officers who have been trained in the program.

Since 1995, more than 750,000 young adults have taken “Alive at 25.” The nationwide program covers a variety of topics, including distracted and impaired driving, speeding and seat belt usage. Interactive media segments, group discussions, role-playing and short lectures help participants develop potential solutions for reducing their exposure to driving risks. “Alive at 25” has proved effective in other states. Colorado, for instance, has seen a 20 percent decrease in the fatality rate for 20 year olds.

Interested individuals or groups can contact their local MHP office to schedule a session. To find your local MHP office, visit doj.mt.gov/enforcement/highwaypatrol/default.asp#districtoffices.

For more information on teen driving, visit teendriver.nsc.org.

The National Safety Council (nsc.org) saves lives by preventing injuries and deaths at work, in homes and communities, and on the roads, through leadership, research, education and advocacy.

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