



CITY OF CLEARWATER

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

RELEASE 09-112

August 21, 2009

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CLEARWATER POLICE TO ENFORCE SCHOOL ZONES AND SAFETY IN BUS STOP AREAS

WHO: Clearwater Police Department

WHAT: Operation School STEP (Special Traffic Enforcement Program)

WHEN: August 25 – 27, 2009

WHERE: School Zones within the City of Clearwater

WHY: The Clearwater Police Department will be out monitoring school zones as children head back for the first day of school on August 25, 2009. The Clearwater Police Department will be enforcing Operation School S.T.E.P. (Special Traffic Enforcement Program). This detail reinforces speeding restrictions within school zones and traffic laws regarding safe vehicle operations around school buses.

Clearwater Police Officers including the specialized Traffic Enforcement Team, Traffic Motorcycle Component, and patrol officers will be enforcing controlled speed zones in school areas during student arrival and dismissal times. Speeding violations in schools zones carry the following minimum fines:

- 1-9 mph over the speed limit = \$156.00
- 10-14 mph over the speed limit = \$306.00
- 15-19 mph over the speed limit = \$406.00

Officers will also patrol bus stops to ensure safe and legal driving and to make sure drivers are following warning lights and stop signals by school buses.

- Drivers must come to a stop behind the school bus when the stop signals are activated and the stop arm is extended.
- Drivers must stop if coming from the opposite direction UNLESS there is a raised median separating the two directions of travel.

Failing to stop for a school bus will result in a \$206.00 fine.

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