

News Release

www.premier.sa.gov.au



Hon Jennifer Rankine

Minister for Police
Minister for Correctional Services
Minister for Emergency Services
Minister for Road Safety
Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Wednesday, 4 April 2012

EASTER ROAD SAFETY – THINK ABOUT YOUR FAMILY

Minister for Road Safety Jennifer Rankine is urging families to think about their loved ones before getting behind the wheel this Easter.

“Think long and hard about how your family could be ripped apart by a fatal mistake on the roads,” Ms Rankine said.

Last Easter there was one fatality on South Australian roads and 13 serious injuries.

“One life lost is one too many. As a mother and grandmother, words could not describe the grief I would feel if I lost a family member to road trauma,” she said.

SAPOL will be using all its available resources over Easter as part of Operation Crossroads. Police will use a range of tactics including a highly visible presence, speed detection, static and mobile random driver testing.

Minister Rankine, SAPOL’s Assistant Commissioner Harrison and MAC General Manager Ben Tuffnell, will launch the 2012 road safety campaign – Operation Crossroad – at SAPOL’s vehicle compound at Temple Court, Ottoway at 10am TODAY.

Holiday-makers can expect extra police along the Sturt Highway monitoring drivers travelling through the Riverland and interstate.

“On-the-spot fines will be issued for speeding, drink and drug driving, driver inattention and failing to wear seatbelts,” Ms Rankine said.

“I make absolutely no apologies for this. Road users, please consider yourselves warned. If you break the law you will get caught this Easter.”

Operation Crossroads begins tomorrow and continues until Monday 9 April.

“I urge all drivers to plan their journeys, be patient, and rest every two hours. We must all take steps to ensure we celebrate Easter and enjoy the long weekend safely,” Ms Rankine said.

Last year 30 per cent of the State’s fatalities were the result of drivers and passengers not wearing seatbelts.

“This is a sobering figure and shows how simple actions save lives,” Ms Rankine said.