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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

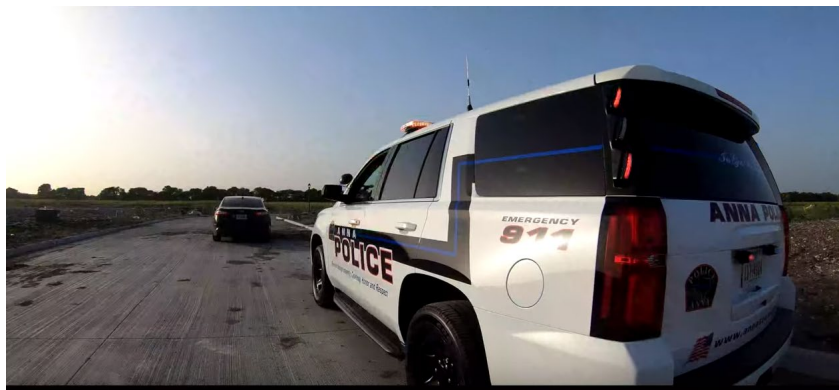
Anna PD Participates in DPS Slow-Down-Move Over

Objective of initiative was to increase driver awareness of the law and reduce accidents.

ANNA, TEXAS (MARCH 31, 2019) – The Anna Police Department (APD) announced it participated in the March 26 2019 SLOW-DOWN-MOVE-OVER (SDMO) initiative with Texas DPS Troopers. SDMO is a result of legislation passed by the Texas Legislature, and signed by the Governor to help protect police officers, firefighters, EMTs and tow truck operators during traffic stops, crash investigations and other incidents on the roadways and streets. The SDMO law is part of the Texas Transportation Code, Section 545.175 (See Page 2 and 3).

During the March 26th SDMO operation a total of 158 traffic stops were conducted on vehicles in the Anna area and of these, 87 vehicles were in violation of the SDMO law. Anna had two officers assigned to this operation along with the DPS Troopers. This SDMO initiative helped increase motorist awareness of the SDMO statute and assisted in boosting voluntary compliance of all traffic laws.

“Upon approaching an emergency vehicle, including a tow truck, that is stopped on a highway with its emergency lights activated, the driver of a vehicle travelling on the same side of the highway shall slow down and proceed with caution and move to a non-adjacent lane if it is safe to do so,” said Anna Police Chief Jeff Caponera. “We welcome the opportunity to work with our law enforcement agency partners in making the roads and streets of Collin County safer for everyone.”



*** END ***

TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE

Sec. 545.157. PASSING CERTAIN VEHICLES. (a) This section applies only to the following vehicles:

(1) a stationary authorized emergency vehicle using visual signals that meet the requirements of Sections 547.305 and 547.702;

(2) a stationary tow truck using equipment authorized by Section 547.305(d); and

(3) a Texas Department of Transportation vehicle not separated from the roadway by a traffic control channelizing device and using visual signals that comply with the standards and specifications adopted under Section 547.105.

(b) On approaching a vehicle described by Subsection (a), an operator, unless otherwise directed by a police officer, shall:

(1) vacate the lane closest to the vehicle when driving on a highway with two or more lanes traveling in the direction of the vehicle; or

(2) slow to a speed not to exceed:

(A) 20 miles per hour less than the posted speed limit when the posted speed limit is 25 miles per hour or more; or

(B) five miles per hour when the posted speed limit is less than 25 miles per hour.

(c) A violation of this section is:

(1) a misdemeanor punishable under Section 542.401;

(2) a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of \$500 if the violation results in property damage; or

(3) a Class B misdemeanor if the violation results in bodily injury.

(d) If conduct constituting an offense under this section also constitutes an offense under another section of this code or the Penal Code, the actor may be prosecuted under either section or under both sections.

(e) In this section:

(1) "Tow truck" means a vehicle that:

(A) has been issued a permit under Subchapter C, Chapter 2308, Occupations Code; and

(B) is operated by a person licensed under Subchapter D, Chapter 2308, Occupations Code.

(2) "Traffic control channelizing device" means equipment used to warn and alert drivers of conditions created by work activities in or near the traveled way, to protect workers in a temporary traffic control zone, and to guide drivers and pedestrians safely. The term includes a traffic cone, tubular marker, vertical panel, drum, barricade, temporary raised island, concrete or cable barrier, guardrail, or channelizer.

Added by Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 327, Sec. 2, eff. Sept. 1, 2003.

Amended by:

Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 229 (H.B. 378), Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2011.

Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 6 (S.B. 510), Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2013.