

*Rice County*

# MOD Squad

*Saving Lives,  
Reducing Injuries*

**MODifying Unsafe Driver Behaviors  
"One Traffic Stop at a Time"**

**Coming soon ... to a city near you!!**

*Starring:*

Rice County Sheriff Department, MN State Patrol, Faribault Police Department, Northfield Police Department,  
Morristown Police Department, Lonsdale Police Department, Dundas Police Department, Rice County Safe Communities Coalition



Minnesota  
Office of  
Traffic Safety



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# Mission of the Rice County MOD Squad?

Our mission is to raise awareness and educate the public and to aggressively patrol to create **high visibility traffic** enforcement to **MOD-ify** unsafe driving; thereby reducing life changing injury and fatal crashes, making our roads safer and driving Rice County towards zero deaths.

WHY?????

# 10-yr Crash Trend Data

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Fatalities	8	20	13	14	11	9	14	13	4	12	

# Who is the Rice County MOD Squad?



- o Rice County Sheriff's Office
  - o Minnesota State Patrol
  - o Faribault Police Department
  - o Northfield Police Department
  - o Dundas Police Department
  - o Lonsdale Police Department
  - o Morristown Police Department
- 
- Supported by the Office of Traffic Safety and the Rice County Safe Communities Coalition

## How is the MOD Squad funded?

- \*Federal Funds from NiteCap (DWI enforcement)
- Safe and Sober grants (DWI, Seatbelt, Speed Enforcement)

\*Through the Office of Traffic Safety



## What makes this different from previous efforts?

- Rice County is one of only 5 counties that have been selected to participate in this project involving increased funding, aggressive law enforcement, high visibility enforcement saturations, and increased public awareness and education
- The Rice County MOD Squad evolved with our Nightcap grant doubling and increased Safe and Sober hour allocations - all agencies are collaborating to maximize our impact throughout 2009



- Local officers will be traveling outside their communities to pool resources with other agencies to work towards our goal.
- For example; Rice County Deputies, State Troopers, and Police officers from Northfield, Dundas, Lonsdale, Morristown work a high visibility saturation in Faribault. We will be working similarly throughout Rice County

# How Will You Know If You Saw the MOD Squad?

- Officers will be wearing highly reflective yellow vests
- Officers will be handing out business cards listing our mission and the participating agencies
- During Nightcap DWI enforcement there will be message boards along targeted traffic corridors that say: “MOD Squad on Patrol”, “DWI Arrest Zone”

# How Will You Know If You Saw the MOD Squad?

- Officers will be aggressively patrolling to intercept violations, within and around the targeted areas
- “Aggressive patrol doesn’t mean be seen driving around but actively stopping violations”

## Rural vs Metro

- No “corridors” like metro cities
- MOD Squad targets smaller communities (less law enforcement presence or fear of being caught)
- Local festivals and celebrations (Dam Days, Bullhead Days, etc.)

**THE RICE COUNTY**

**MOD  
SQUAD**

**Starring . . .**

**Highly Dedicated  
and Motivated  
Officers from:**



- Rice County Sheriff's Department
- Faribault Police Department
- Northfield Police Department
- Minnesota State Patrol – 2100
- Lonsdale Police Department
- Morristown Police Department
- Dundas Police Department

*Saving Lives, Reducing Injuries* by

**MOD-ifying**

**Unsafe**

**Driver Behaviors**

**One Stop  
At A Time**

# THE MOD SQUAD



SOLID, BABY

**Coming Soon . . .**

**to a City Near You !**



**Stand by...**











10 4:53 PM









Call 1-800-When You Need 1-800-Only 1-800-Only 1-800-Only

FEB 2 2004





10 22:10







Megan Cooper-Murphy died on June 7, 1999.

She was 15 years old  
and the only unbelted occupant.

She was ejected when the drunk driver lost control.



Scott County Deputy Joe Niemann, 37 years old  
Killed by a Drunk Driver on December 30, 2003



Dakota County Deputy Luther Klug  
Killed by a Drunk Driver on July 15, 1996  
*(Died in surgery July 16, 1996)*

**It's Time for a  
Change...**

**It's time to create a high  
visibility Saturation Team –  
comprised of motivated Cops  
who are tired of continually  
seeing people hurt and killed in  
crashes**

# The goals are

- To Pool resources and work together
- To create a fun work environment with lots of energy
- To create high visibility law enforcement
- To MODify unsafe driver behaviors
- To reduce life changing crashes



**We will start making small  
differences...**

**Today...**

**One Stop  
At A Time**

**Are you ready  
to make a difference?**

How have we made a difference??

# 2009 Enforcement

- 2,925 total driver contacts.
  - 311 speeding citations.
  - 181 seatbelt citations.
    - 83 DWI arrests.
  - 7 vehicle forfeitures.

## Can our success be measured?

- Increased taxi traffic and cars in bar lots
- Increased number of designated drivers during saturations
- Reduction in life changing injury and fatal crashes, with special attention to alcohol related crashes

Recent survey question asks:

“Suppose you drove a motor vehicle after drinking alcohol and the amount of alcohol in your body was more than the law allows for, how likely is it the police would stop you.”



Answer:

VERY LIKELY.....	47%
SOMEWHAT LIKELY.....	35%
NOT TOO LIKELY.....	11%
NOT AT ALL LIKELY.....	3%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	1%

# 10-yr Crash Trend Data

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Fatalities	8	20	13	14	11	9	14	13	4	12	4

To date there have been NO alcohol  
related deaths!

*Back by popular demand!*

# ***MOD SQUAD***



**MODifying Unsafe Driver Behaviors “One Traffic Stop at a Time”**

**Coming again in 2010...to a city near you!!**

Starring:

Rice County Sheriff Department, MN State Patrol, Faribault Police Department,  
Northfield Police Department, Morristown Police Department,  
Lonsdale Police Department, Dundas Police Department,  
Rice County Safe Communities Coalition



QUESTIONS???

# Rice County MOD Squad

- Lt. Nancy Silkey
- Minnesota State Patrol
- Work:
- [nancy.silkey@state.mn.us](mailto:nancy.silkey@state.mn.us)
- Capt. Neal Pederson
- Faribault Police Department
- Work:
- [npederson@ci.faribault.mn.us](mailto:npederson@ci.faribault.mn.us)
- Lt. Mark Holm
- Minnesota State Patrol
- Work:
- [mark.holm@state.mn.us](mailto:mark.holm@state.mn.us)
- Deputy Blaine Smith
- Rice County S.O.
- Work: 507-838-7047
- [rbsmith@co.rice.mn.us](mailto:rbsmith@co.rice.mn.us)

SLOW DOWN  
YOU  
SONS A BITCHES

