



# City of Napoleon, Ohio

*Police & Safety Services*

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 29, 2024

## **NAPOLEON POLICE DEPARTMENT CONDUCTS MOCK CRASH EVENT AT NAPOLEON HIGH SCHOOL On May 2, 2024**

Napoleon Police Department Provides Important Tips for Parents to Develop Safer Teen Drivers

Officers from the Napoleon Police Department with assistance from Napoleon Area Schools, the Henry County Sheriff's Office, The Ohio State Highway Patrol, Napoleon Fire Department, Ridgeville Twp Fire Department, Florida Fire Department, and Life Flight are conducting a mock crash event at Napoleon High School.

### **Mock Crashes — Dramatic Reality Check**

The mock crash uses crashed vehicles set up on school grounds, and student participants to act out roles as crash victims. The school's junior and senior classes will watch the demonstration and learn how emergency responders conduct rescue efforts in real-time.

Mock crashes are a dramatic presentation to educate teens and parents about the true consequences of making poor driving decisions. When students see their friends and peers injured, carried out in a body bag, and others being handcuffed and taken to jail, it hits home. It's a strong message that aims to influence their driving choices, especially at potentially dangerous times on the road.

### **Traffic Crashes — One of the Leading Causes of Teen Deaths**

Traffic crashes are one of the leading causes of death for Ohio teens, due to inexperience, risk-taking, distractions, and poor seat belt compliance.

### **Important Role of Parents and Safe Teen Driving**

The Napoleon Police Department is urging parents to talk to their teens about the dangers and serious consequences of underage drinking, speeding, distracted driving, and not wearing a seat belt. Parents must set a good example for their children by driving safely, never texting while driving, never driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and insisting that everyone is always buckled up to keep them safe.

Parents should also reinforce teen driving laws such as seat belt use, passenger limitation, nighttime driving, and no cell phone use.