



Sheriff's Teen Traffic Offender Program - STTOP

About STTOP

STTOP is an innovative intervention program developed by the Lost Hills/Malibu Station of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, to educate young drivers and their parents. It is reckless behavior and other bad driving practices that STTOP hopes to correct. The program is designed to intervene when a young driver displays poor judgment or dangerous driving behavior. Aside from following up on collision reports and citations issued, STTOP encourages citizens to call in and report dangerous teen drivers. Too many times, patrol officers are not present to see the dangerous driving. The inability to catch the offender in the act ties the hands of law enforcement, which cannot act on a Vehicle Code infraction they do not witness. Often the youthful driver screeches his tires, races another car or does other dangerous maneuvers, and then vanishes before the patrol units can arrive.

How Does it Work?

STTOP will take the information phoned in or on-line about the driver, his vehicle and the dangerous driving behavior and attempt to identify the offender. After locating the driver, a Sheriff's Deputy conducts an intervention with the driver and his/her parents. The programs' intent is not to prosecute, but to correct and educate the offender and his parents. Getting parents involved is the key. Young drivers do their best to impress parents with their safe driving. The parents can't always be there and peer pressure, or simply wanting to impress friends, often leads to deadly consequences.

The goal of STTOP is to make teens better, safer drivers, which in turn benefits all drivers on the roadways. Unlike some private organizations, there are no additional fees charged to parents of teens, to put a bumper sticker with a "toll free number" on a car (which can be easily removed). No additional taxes are levied on citizens. A postcard or letter isn't sent with a one-size-fits-all message, which can be easily lost in the mail, or thrown away by the teen. An experienced, uniformed law enforcement officer from the community visits the home, unannounced, to talk to the parents and teen. The impact this has is unrivaled.



REPORT DANGEROUS TEEN DRIVING

CALL: 877-310-**STOP** OR (877-310-7867)