

## Media Release

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## USF Police Department partners with FDOT District Seven for safer roads

**Tampa/Hillsborough County, FL** – In a significant move to enhance road safety, the USF Police Department is teaming up with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Seven through an Enhanced Law Enforcement Engagement (ELEE) program. This partnership, effective from July 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025, will see an increased first responder presence on state roadways with high crash rates, thereby raising public awareness about the importance of safe driving.

Our efforts will be concentrated on key areas identified in the State Highway Strategic Safety Plan (SHSSP), including intersection violations; driving under the influence (DUI); speeding, aggressive, and distracted driving; lane departure, work zone violations; and move over violations.

"FDOT District Seven is committed to making our roads safer through partnerships with local first responders," said FDOT District Seven Safety Engineer Emmeth Duran, P.E. "Through this program, we are working to reach FDOT's target of zero fatal crashes and serious injuries."

"We are proud to partner with FDOT on this initiative to increase the safety of our roadways for all motorists," said USF Police Chief Chris Daniel. "We all share a common interest in the importance of safe driving, not just around USF's campuses but throughout the Tampa Bay region and our state."

The ELEE pilot program was launched in 2022 by FDOT District Seven to expand its efforts to improve traffic safety. The purpose of the ELEE program is to partner with local first responder agencies to reduce crashes and injuries on the state roads and federal highways FDOT District Seven manages.

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