



**County of Ottawa**  
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## **DEPARTMENT MEMO**

**Number 13 of 2007**

**To:** All Department Personnel

**From:** Sheriff Gary A. Rosema

**Date:** July 16, 2007

**Subject:** S.T.O.P.P.E.D. Program - Traffic Initiative

On Wednesday, July 18 we as a department along with Kent and Muskegon County are kicking off our involvement in a state wide traffic program hosted by MSA in partnership with AAA Insurance and endorsed by Secretary of State, Terry Lynn Land that is called STOPPED (Sheriffs Telling our Parents and Promoting Educated Drivers). It is anticipated that within the year all 83 Michigan Counties will be participating in the program and with this current phasing of the program 63 counties are know involved. Allegan County is currently active as a STOPPED County and has received positive feedback.

The STOPPED Program gives parents a tool to use in addressing their teens driving behaviors. STOPPED provides a window decal for every vehicle that is registered and driven by a person under 21 years of age.

Parents simply register their vehicle on-line at [www.michigansheriff.com](http://www.michigansheriff.com) and a STOPPED sticker is mailed to their home to be placed on the vehicle's windshield. This sticker serves as a visible reminder to the young driver to drive safely and responsibly, and that if her or she is pulled over for any reason, law enforcement will complete a notification card and their parents will receive a letter regarding their contact with law enforcement.

The notification feature informs parents of any potential problems and enables them to enforce rules they have established regarding their teenagers driving privileges.