

# PORCH LIGHT

CRIME  
PREVENTION  
NEWSLETTER

## MARION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Jason Myers, Sheriff  
www.co.marion.or.us/so

PORCH LIGHT  
CRIME PREVENTION NEWSLETTER  
January • 2010

## MARION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

### CITIZEN ACADEMY Scheduled for Spring, 2010

*...crossing the*

*yellow line.*

Planning is now underway for the 2010 Citizen Academy of the Marion County Sheriff's Office. The Academy format is currently under revision with the experience being redesigned to place emphasis on exposing participants to the inside workings of their Sheriff's Office; to view the world through the eyes of the deputy on duty. The time commitment necessary for participation will be condensed to four days (versus the 12 weeks of evening meetings plus 2 weekend days of previous academies.) Friday & Saturday, April 9th & 10th, and Saturdays, April 17th & 24th, have been selected for the 2010 Citizen Academy.

#### *What does the Sheriff's Office do? Why are they needed?*

The 2010 Citizen Academy will offer a close-up view of the functions of the Sheriff's Office, including: a behind the scenes look at Judicial Security; seeing the inside workings of the Marion County Jail through the eyes of both the deputy and the inmate, and an insider's view of the Parole & Probation client reporting/interview process and the philosophy with which the deputies manage their caseloads. The duties of the Enforcement deputy extend well beyond the traditional traffic stop. The 2010 Academy will bring participants into this multi-faceted world with exposure to a wide variety of their duties, including patrol and detectives; street crimes, SWAT, tactical negotiations, handling meth labs, child abuse, domestic violence, marine patrol, Search & Rescue and traffic investigations, to name a few areas to be covered.

*... a better  
understanding  
... a deeper  
appreciation*

It is our hope that upon completion of the 2010 Citizen Academy, participants will leave with a better understanding of the role that Marion County Sheriff's Office fulfills in the public safety community of Marion County, as well as a deeper appreciation of the challenges facing our office and our community.

#### **Interested in Participating?**

Watch the Marion County Sheriff's Office website for the application form soon to be posted there. Enrollment will be limited.

For more information, contact Janet Paul at 503.588.7981.

EMERGENCY  
9•1•1

NON-EMERGENCY  
503.588.5032

DRUG ACTIVITY TIP LINE  
503.588.5112

GRAFFITI HOTLINE  
503.566.6955

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH  
503.588.7981

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR  
503.589.3250

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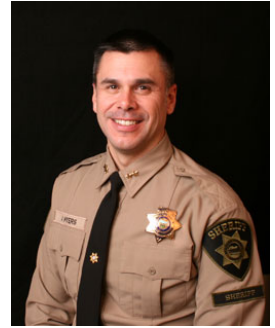
## Sheriff Jason Myers' 2010 Message

Looking forward to 2010, it brings excitement about the future. I welcome the challenges of this new year. Our Leadership Team has developed a set of 2010 Top Ten Objectives. This accountability list will be used to help keep our agency on track to producing tangible results. Please allow me to share this list of objectives with you:

1. Focus on employee safety as a first priority at all times.
2. Focus on legitimate, identified needs and priorities of the residents of Marion County and her visitors.
3. Demonstrate fiscal accountability through showing taxpayers a high return on the public funds entrusted to us.
4. Steadily contribute to the quality of life in our community by involving our citizens.
5. Steadily enhance our relationships, communications, and mutually-beneficial partnerships.
6. Contribute to employee satisfaction by creating and maintaining an internal cultural that values employee input, personal accountability, and recognition for a job well done.
7. Systematically work toward maintaining adequate, sustainable, dedicated funding for current and future Sheriff's Office operations, infrastructure, training and staffing.
8. Support Marion County's economic growth and future direction by recruiting and retaining well-qualified, well-trained professional team members focused on public safety.
9. Focus on the highest professional standards of public safety and our core services within the constraints of the resources provided to us.
10. Demand management excellence by ensuring we are planning for the future needs of our community and our employees.

In the wake of substantial revenue declines resulting in the loss of 72 beds at the Work Center and vital support positions, we adapt. The community, to date, has felt few adverse effects. This office remains dedicated to providing the highest level of public safety services to the residents of Marion County.

Happy New Year,  
*Sheriff Jason Myers*



## TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN: *Things children need to know about*



**In an emergency, the best thing that you can do is tell your parents, a teacher, or another adult you trust right away. But, if no one is around, you may have to call someone else for help. Here is what you need to know about where to find help and how you can make sure it gets to you FAST:**

**Know what 9-1-1 is.** 9-1-1 is the phone number you can call from any phone when you need help or you see someone who needs help right away.

**Know when to call 9-1-1.** You should only call when someone or something is hurt or in danger and you need a police officer, a firefighter, or medical care.

**Know what happens when you call 9-1-1.**

After you dial, the person who picks up on the other end will be someone who works at a 9-1-1 center and whose job it is to help you. They may ask you to do things to help or ask you questions. It is important that you follow their directions as best you can. They will send someone to wherever you are and stay on the phone with you until everyone is safe.

**Memorize important information about you and your family.** Being able to tell the 9-1-1 operator things like your address, your parents' names, and your phone number will get help to you faster.

**Never hang up.** Even if you called 9-1-1 by accident, or if you think the problem has gone away, it is important that you stay on the phone until the call taker tells you it is alright to hang up. It is the call taker's job to make sure that you are OK and that help has gotten to whomever needs it. In situations where you are not able to talk or have to leave, keep the phone off the hook so that the 9-1-1 operator can hear what is going on in the room. Often, they will be able to use computers at the 9-1-1 center to find your address.

**Know where you are.** If you aren't at home and don't know the address where you are, look around and try to find a street sign or a building with a name on it so that the 9-1-1 operator knows your exact location.

**Try not to be scared.** When you call 9-1-1, you become the eyes and ears for the call taker. Help will get to you much faster if you stay calm and can tell the call taker everything that is happening and can answer all the call taker's questions.



## Marion County Sheriff's *Traffic Safety Team* reminds drivers of New Cell Phone Law

**J**anuary 1, 2010, brought with it new regulations regarding the use of cell phones while driving a motor vehicle. The new law "prohibits person of any age from operating a motor vehicle while using mobile communication device except under certain circumstances." Some of the *certain circumstances* include: calling for emergency help (9-1-1), persons driving an ambulance or emergency vehicle, persons 18 years of age or older who are using a hands-free accessory or operating a motor vehicle in the scope of the person's employment if operation of the motor vehicle is necessary for the person's job. For a complete list of the exceptions go to: [www.co.marion.or.us/so](http://www.co.marion.or.us/so). Click on Enforcement Division-Traffic Safety Team-New Call Phone Law.

Sergeant James Krieger (pictured left) reminds drivers to always exercise caution when using your cell phone; no phone call or text message is more important than your safety and the safety of others.

## Meet *Doc Nelson*, Marion County Sheriff's Office Volunteer Coordinator

**S**ince 2007, Doc Nelson has been an integral part of the Crime Prevention Unit of the Marion County Sheriff's Office. As the coordinator of our volunteer force, Doc brings his unwavering optimism and commitment to his duties. Throughout his professional radio announcer career, Doc regularly made time for contributing to his community. Organizations such as the American Heart Association, Chamber of Commerce and Salem Police Department have all experienced the pleasure of his contributions. Doc is a 16-year veteran of Marion County's, 911 Advisory Board.



*Come join our team!*

FOR A VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY  
THAT FITS YOUR SCHEDULE...  
CONTACT DOC AT 503.589.3250.

Over the past two years as our Volunteer Coordinator, Doc has developed a variety of opportunities for citizens interested in volunteering their time to our community. Among his most notable contributions to the Sheriff's Office, Doc's crews conducted boat inspections all summer long at Detroit Lake, providing an invaluable safety service to boaters, in addition to freeing up Marion County deputies for Marine Patrol. Volunteers conduct traffic audits with Marion County Sheriff's Radar Reader Board and send offending drivers speeding notices. Citations are issued by trained volunteers to violators who illegally park in Handicap Parking Spaces. There are also office/computer input opportunities. Under Doc's leadership, 2009's 27-member volunteer force contributed over 2400 work-hours. When not at the Sheriff's Office, Doc is likely to be found on the golf course or fishing.

## Marion County Sheriff Press Releases Available On-Line

No need to wait for your morning newspaper! Get the latest information about the Marion County Sheriff's Office direct from our Public Information Officer *Lieutenant Sheila Lorange*.

We invite you to subscribe to receive the Sheriff's Office news releases via email by visiting:

<http://www.flashalert.net/news.html?id=1294>