

MEDIA ADVISORY

BROWNWOOD DISTRICT

Andrew Carlson (325) 643-0413 Andrew.Carlson@txdot.gov

"SHATTERED DREAMS" PROGRAM COMING TO RANGER

Realistic mock "car crash" with simulated fatalities to provide anti-DWI message to students

Feb. 26, 2016

What: "Shattered Dreams" program featuring mock alcohol-related car crash and funeral

When & Mock crash: Monday, Feb. 29, 11:30 a.m. at Ranger College, Loop 254 & College

Where: Circle, Ranger, Texas

Mock funeral: Tuesday, March 1, 10:30 a.m. at Ranger High School, 1842 Loop 254

East, Ranger, Texas

RANGER – The Texas Department of Transportation is partnering with Bryce Kennedy Memorial, Inc. of Abilene to bring the "Shattered Dreams" program to Ranger College and Ranger High School on Feb. 29 and March 1.

The "Shattered Dreams" program involves the dramatization of an alcohol-related crash on the Ranger College campus, complete with police, fire, EMS and Air Evac helicopter response, emergency room treatment at Eastland Memorial Hospital, family notifications, and the arrest and booking of the driver. Ranger residents should not be alarmed by the presence of emergency vehicles and medical helicopter at the college on Monday, Feb. 29, as this is all part of the program.

The crash scene drama will be played out before the Ranger College and Ranger High School student bodies on Monday at 11: 30 a.m. at Ranger College. Throughout the day other elements of the "docudrama" will unfold. To give students a better understanding of the number of DWI-related deaths, an individual dressed as the "Grim Reaper" appears periodically throughout the school day to select a new victim. The victims are taken out of class, made-up in white faces and then returned to their classrooms to continue their day. By the end of the day, every student has one or more "dead" classmates present in the classroom, and on this note the school day ends.

Tuesday morning, March 1, a wrap-up assembly will be held at Ranger High School at 10:30 a.m. featuring those who played roles in the previous day's drama, including the "crash" victims, the drunk driver, their parents, and participating law enforcement and medical personnel. A guest speaker will reinforce the message – *Don't drink until you are 21, and never drink and drive.*

Unique in its design and powerful in its impact, "Shattered Dreams" is an educational experience that reminds us all of the dangers associated with drinking and driving. It reminds us that too many young lives have already been lost and countless others severely impaired because of the tragic consequences of underage drinking and drinking combined with driving.

Families, schools and community groups in Texas must join together to teach young people that consuming alcohol while underage is never a good choice. Our communities cannot afford to ignore the devastating impact of underage drinking.

TxDOT's <u>Brownwood District</u> includes Brown, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Lampasas, McCulloch, Mills, San Saba and Stephens counties.

For media inquiries, contact Andrew.Carlson@TxDOT.gov or (325) 643-0413.

###

The Texas Department of Transportation is responsible for maintaining 80,000 miles of road and for supporting aviation, rail, and public transportation across the state. TxDOT and its 12,000 employees are committed to working with others to provide safe and reliable transportation solutions for Texas by maintaining a safe system, addressing congestion, connecting Texas communities, and being a Best in Class state agency. Find out more at txdot.gov. "Like" us on <a href="mailto:Txdot.gov. "Exception of the transportation across the state. TxDOT and its 12,000 employees are committed to working with others to provide safe and reliable transportation solutions for Texas by maintaining a safe system, addressing congestion, connecting Texas communities, and being a Best in Class state agency. Find out more at txdot.gov. "Like" us on Tx

Maintain a Safe System • Address Congestion • Best-in-Class State Agency • Connect Texas Communities

An Equal Opportunity Employer

www.txdot.gov | TxDOT on Facebook | TxDOT on Twitter