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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **Traffic Enforcement Deployment Results in 34 Citations**

On Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup> the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office stepped up pedestrian safety enforcement in the city of Millbrae. The focused enforcement was to address the primary collision factors involving motorists and pedestrians.

Pedestrian fatalities are rising in California as more people use non-motorized means of transportation. The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office mapped out locations over the past two years where pedestrian involved collisions have occurred along with the violations that led to those crashes. Sheriff's Office personnel conducted saturation enforcement in these areas to address those primary collision factors.

The deployment resulted in 34 citations. Of the 34 citations, one was for failing to stop at a red traffic signal light, one for unsafe passing, one for blocking a crosswalk, one for an unsafe turn, and 30 were for failure to yield to a pedestrian within a crosswalk. Additionally, four verbal warnings were given.

A national study reveals that pedestrians and drivers often do not obey laws and signals and many often use cell phones while walking or driving. Only 60 percent of pedestrians said they expected drivers to stop when they were in crosswalks, even though they have the right-of-way. The Sheriff's Office wants to remind pedestrians to cross the street only in marked crosswalks, or at corners, and to not enter the roadway where a vehicle is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard.