

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brooke Russell, Executive Director
South Carolina National Safety Council
455 St. Andrews Road, Building D, Suite 1
Columbia, SC 29210
803.732.6778
brussell@scnsc.org

Dutch Fork High School Hosts the First Teen Driver Safety Assembly

Irmo, South Carolina (April 17, 2007) – The South Carolina National Safety Council in partnership with Dutch Fork High School, Colorado State Patrol, Colorado State Patrol Family Foundation, and the Caitlyn Craig Foundation, E-Med Training Services, will hold a Teen Driver Safety Assembly on April 21, 2007 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at Dutch Fork High School located at 1400 Old Tamah Road, Irmo, SC 29063. This event will kick off the state's first school-based Alive @ 25 defensive driving program.

The Teen Driver Safety Assembly promises to be an exciting event with energetic presentations and interactive activities. During the assembly you will hear presentations on teen driving from local Sheriff's from both Lexington and Richland County. In addition to hearing from Sheriff Metts and Sheriff Lott, Lt. Jim Crawford from Lexington County Sheriffs Department and Sheriff Jason Booth from Saludo County will present on the importance of safe driving.

The South Carolina National Safety Council and the Alive @ 25 program has received an overwhelming showing of support and endorsement from South Carolina's local government. We are pleased to have the following government officials coming out and showing their support at the Teen Driver Safety Assembly: the Honorable Judge Mural, Dutch Fork Magistrate; the Honorable Judge Womble, Richland County Magistrate; Senator Courson, District 20; Senator Cromer, District 18; Senator Knotts, District 23; Senator Lourie, District 22; Representative Ballentine, District 71; Representative Huggins, District 85; Lt. Governor Andre Bauer; and Comptroller General Richard Eckstrom.

Students and parents encouraged to participate in interactive activities including the Fatal Vision Goggles, and the Alive @ 25 simulator. The Fatal Vision Goggles allow you to experience what happens to your vision when you drink and drive. The Alive @ 25 simulator will give you a hands on experience of what it's like to drive impaired and how only a few drinks can drastically impair your driving ability.

In addition to presentations and activities there will be exhibits including a crash car and a Jaws of Life presentation.

Motor vehicle crashes are the #1 killer of teens today in the United States. Unlike traditional driver's education courses that focus on the mechanics of driving, Alive @ 25 addresses the behaviors of driving. Alive @ 25 rewards good decision-making and provides tools on how to make good decisions when in a peer-pressure environment.

The National Safety Council reports that students who complete Alive @ 25 are 96% less likely to be killed in a car crash than youths that have not taken the course.

More information on NSC and the program described in this press release can be found at www.scnsc.org.

###