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Law Enforcement “On Track” to Prevent Child Abuse

The Wyandotte County Sheriff’s Department and the Kansas Speedway KCK are hosting **Law Enforcement “On Track” to Prevent Child Abuse** on Friday April 1, 2011 at 10:00 am at the Kansas Speedway promoting April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Law Enforcement from many agencies will be represented. Fully marked patrol units will be lined up in the pit area. Blue ribbons will be handed to each officer by children and their parents after a short program, asking officers to “help protect children from abuse.”

Wyandotte County Sheriff Donald Ash will wave the checkered flag and all units will activate their emergency equipment. After a brief moment, he will wave the flag again and officers will turn off their sirens, but keep all lights on. This will symbolize all officers working together to prevent abuse. The Kansas Speedway Show Car will start the processional of patrol cars leaving the pit area and going around the track in groups of 2. Pictures will be taken from the ground and a helicopter will be filming from above.

In addition, The Sunflower House will be helping with the launch of the newly formed PACK (Prevent Abuse Coalition of Kansas). This will be a very busy morning!

The mission of our event is “One Passion, One Goal...Raising Strong Families”. This month and throughout the year, the Wyandotte County Sheriff’s Office encourages all individuals and organizations to play a role in making your community a better place for families. By ensuring parents have the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to care for their children, we can help prevent child abuse and neglect by strengthening families and communities.

Child abuse continues to be a major social problem in the Kansas City Metro area. In Johnson and Wyandotte Counties alone, over 9,000 reports of child abuse and neglect are received by authorities each year. Law enforcement believes many cases of suspected child abuse go unreported each year.

For more information on child abuse, this event or to schedule an interview, please contact Lt. Kelli Bailiff at 913-573-8058.

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