

COUNTY OF OAKLAND  
**OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF**

**MICHAEL J. BOUCHARD**



October 6, 2008

Dear Parent:

To a teenager, a driver's license means freedom, but to us parents, it often means the worry that comes with knowing a son or daughter is out on the road with limited experience. Tragically, for the parents of hundreds of young adults in Michigan last year, the consequences as a result of new driver inexperience were fatal.

Last year, I introduced a new tool to Oakland County parents in the fight to address risky driving by teens, the S.T.O.P.P.E.D program (**Sheriffs Telling Our Parents and Promoting Educated Drivers**). I am pleased to be partnering with the Michigan Sheriff's Association and AAA Michigan to offer parents this voluntary notification system. Through this program, parents can simply register your teen driver's vehicle online at [www.oaklandsheriff.com](http://www.oaklandsheriff.com) and a STOPPED sticker is mailed to your home to be placed on the vehicle's windshield. It serves as a visible reminder to your young driver to drive safely and responsibly, and it also serves as a deterrent. If for any reason he or she is pulled over, whether a citation is issued or not, you will receive a letter explaining the nature of the traffic stop (Please note, the law enforcement officer that pulls the driver over must be from a participating agency...for a complete list within Oakland County, please check our website at [http://www.oakgov.com/sheriff/community\\_services/stopped.html](http://www.oakgov.com/sheriff/community_services/stopped.html)).

The notification feature helps to make you aware of any potential problems and enables you to enforce rules you have set regarding your teenager's driving privileges. Information in the letter includes the time, location, number of passengers, reason for the stop and whether a citation was issued.

I encourage you to consider registering for S.T.O.P.P.E.D. Please visit [www.oaklandsheriff.com](http://www.oaklandsheriff.com) and look for the S.T.O.P.P.E.D. link on our home page or contact Sgt. Carlos Henao at (248) 858-5045.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Michael J. Bouchard'.

Michael J. Bouchard  
OAKLAND COUNTY SHERIFF