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# May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month

*Tallahassee, FL* – The Florida Department of Transportation is observing May as Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month. More than a million drivers in Florida have a motorcycle endorsement on their driver licenses, and many visitors ride motorcycles in the Sunshine State due to Florida's great weather and roads. Safety is FDOT's top priority and throughout the month the department is working to raise awareness and educate all road users on the importance of motorcycle safety.

**FDOT Secretary Mike Dew said, "It's everyone's responsibility to use care and drive responsibly by looking out for all motorists, especially those on motorcycles. By working together, and following important safety practices, users of our roadways can become better aware of motorcyclists while traveling throughout the state."**

During Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, FDOT is asking motorcyclists and motorists to share the road by using these simple tips.

Tips for motorcyclists:
- Say no to drinking and riding.
- Make yourself more visible to motorists: Wear bright colors.
- Always wear adequate riding gear including DOT-compliant helmet.
- Ride in Control (within legal and personal limits).
- Train regularly and get endorsed.
- Inspect your motorcycle before each ride to ensure your safety by having it in good working order.

Tips for drivers:
- Always allow a motorcyclist the full lane width; never try to share a lane.
- Check for motorcycles by looking in your mirrors and blind spots before entering or leaving a lane of traffic.
- When turning at intersections be extra vigilant and watch for motorcycle before turning. You must watch for motorcycles to see motorcycles.
- Do not tailgate. Allow more following distance when following a motorcycle, so the motorcyclist has enough time to maneuver or stop in an emergency.
- Don't drive distracted – eyes on the road, hands on the wheel, and mind on driving.
- Always drive sober.

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