Law Enforcement’s Vital Role in Identifying Medically at Risk Drivers

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Importance of Aging Driver Safety

- Research suggests most older drivers will outlive their ability to drive by 7-10 years (NIA, 2002)
- Older adults more likely to be injured, disabled or killed if involved in a crash (IRCOBI 2012 Conference)
- More than 44% of Maryland drivers are ages 50 & older
Complex Tasks While Driving

- Comparing what you see with past experiences
- Judging time & distance
- Prioritizing visual images
- Recalling the directions to your destination
- Constantly making snap decisions
- Anticipating what other drivers will do
- Juggling competing tasks
What’s Maryland Doing?

- Published Maryland’s Resource Guide for Aging Drivers
- Websites with Resources for Families and Law Enforcement
- Published Red Flag Tip Card
- Training for Law Enforcement, Social Workers, Engineers, and Medical Professionals
- Implementation of E-Referral System
Red Flag Tip Card

- Easy reference guide while on the road
- Visor size for quick reference
- Distributed at training and available for download at the MVA’s website
Training for Law Enforcement, Social Workers, Engineers, and Medical Professionals

- Collaboration between Motor Vehicle Administration, Medical Advisory Board, and Law Enforcement
- Provide information and statistics on Aging/Medically At-Risk Drivers
- Explain process taken by Medical Advisory Board
- Advise Law Enforcement on when to complete an E-Referral
- Provide instruction on how to properly complete an E-Referral
Request for Re-Examination/Medical Evaluation of Driver – E-Referral

- Improvements to Former Paper Form
  - Electronic – more space for information
  - Review by Command Staff is not required
  - Sent to MVA every night at midnight
  - Immediately searchable via E-Tix
• Electronic Interface released in October 2013
• Same System for tickets, warnings, equipment repair orders, and e-referrals
Deployed electronic referrals

Oct 2013

Maryland Law Enforcement

Referrals by Year

Referrals from Law Enforcement to MVA

- 2011: 600
- 2012: 800
- 2013: 900
- 2014: 1300
- 2015: 2000
- 2016: 2100
- 2017: 2100
- 2018: 2200
Thanks and Stay Safe!

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