

Ohio State Highway Patrol

Media Release

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University of Cincinnati Bearcats receive Patrol's 2010 Partners for Safety Award

CINCINNATI – The University of Cincinnati Bearcats received the Ohio State Highway Patrol's 2010 Partners for Safety Award today during the University of Cincinnati Bearcats men's basketball game versus Connecticut. Presenting the Award at Fifth Third Arena to Bearcats Head Football Coach Butch Jones was Colonel John Born, Patrol superintendent, Captain Robert Johnson, Commander of the Patrol's Wilmington District and Lt. Michael Sanders, Commander of the Patrol's Lebanon Post.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol's Partners for Safety Award recognizes local level partnerships that help in the development of state and local programs to increase the overall safety on Ohio roadways. The Patrol established the Award in 2005 to recognize private sector organizations that take an active role in promoting traffic safety initiatives.

During the past two football seasons, the Ohio State Highway Patrol's Lebanon Post and the Bearcats have partnered to promote traffic safety to University of Cincinnati students, fans and within the Cincinnati community in general.

As part of this partnership a, "Fans don't let fans drive drunk," commercial and poster were created with the University of Cincinnati Bearcats Head Coach Butch Jones, Ohio State Highway Patrol's Lebanon Post, the University of Cincinnati Police and Cincinnati Police Department. The commercial was aired on TV with funds from the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Ohio Traffic Safety Officer and aired inside the stadium on game days. The posters were displayed around the stadium and campus.

In addition, the Patrol also created a wallet-sized card with OVI stats and contact info for law enforcement on one side and the other side displayed the contact info for taxi cab companies servicing the Cincinnati metro area. The cards were distributed during each home game by troopers and local law enforcement.

The commercial, poster and taxi card can be viewed at www.statepatrol.ohio.gov.

The Patrol's Partners for Safety program involves developing partnerships at the local level with businesses, community groups, health and safety organizations, law enforcement agencies, and schools. Previous Award recipients include Honda of America Manufacturing, Inc. (2005), Pizza Hut (2006), the American Motorcyclist Association (2007), AK Steel (2008) and the Cincinnati Bengals (2009).

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