



# Board of Commissioners

## PRESS RELEASE

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**County Contact:** Summer Torok  
440.350.2220  
[summer.torok@lakecountyohio.gov](mailto:summer.torok@lakecountyohio.gov)

### Commissioners Proclaim Motorcycle Awareness Month in Lake County

PAINESVILLE, Ohio, April 25, 2024– May marks the beginning of riding season for many motorcyclists in our community. At today’s Commissioners meeting, the Board of Lake County Commissioners proclaimed the month of May as Motorcycle Awareness Month.

The U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reminds all motorists that *Motorcyclist’s Safety Is Everyone’s Safety*. Motorcycle safety is an ongoing responsibility for all road users. By consistently following safe driving and riding practices and sharing them with others, all motorists can help reduce the number of motorcyclist fatalities on America’s roads.

“Motorcycle Awareness Month serves as a reminder for all road users to be mindful of their surroundings and watch out for motorcyclists. Let’s prioritize safety, respect each other’s space on the road, and work towards a shared goal of zero motorcycle-related accidents,” said Commission President John T. Plecnik.



*From the left: Commissioner John T. Plecnik, Vernon Hall of V-Twin Cruisers MC, Commissioners Richard J. Regovich, John R. Hamercheck.*

According to the NHTSA, the following are safe driving and riding practices that all road users — vehicle drivers and motorcyclists alike — should follow to help reduce the number of fatalities and injuries on America’s roadways:

- Observe all traffic laws and always obey the speed limit.
- Drive and ride alcohol- and drug-free.
- Avoid distractions while driving or riding.
- Drivers should yield to motorcyclists, especially while turning at intersections.
- Motorcyclists should wear high-visibility protective gear and DOT-compliant motorcycle helmets. Learn how to identify a safe, DOT-compliant helmet at [www.nhtsa.gov/motorcycle-safety/choose-right-motorcycle-helmet](http://www.nhtsa.gov/motorcycle-safety/choose-right-motorcycle-helmet)

One other significant step that motorcycle riders can take toward promoting road safety for all motorists is completing a rider education and training course. During Motorcycle Awareness Month — and every month — motorcycle riders should commit to adopting and promoting safe driving and riding practices. Everyone can work towards a secure environment for motorcycle riders and all other motorists.

"Motorcycles are a popular mode of transportation for many, but they also come with inherent risks. Let's all commit to promoting motorcycle safety through education, awareness, and responsible riding. Together, we can make our roads safer for everyone," said Commissioner John R. Hamercheck.

"As the warmer weather approaches, motorcycles will become a more common sight on the roads. Let's use this as a reminder to be extra vigilant and aware of our surroundings. Whether you're a motorcyclist or vehicle driver, we all need to do our part to ensure a safe and enjoyable riding experience as we soak up the sun and enjoy the freedom of the open road," said Commissioner Richard J. Regovich.

For more information on motorcycle safety, visit [NHTSA.gov/Motorcycles](https://www.nhtsa.gov/Motorcycles). For additional statistics, please visit <https://cdan.nhtsa.gov/> and search "motorcycle" under Crash Data Publications.

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