

PRESSRELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Handicap Parking Violations

Michigan City, IN (March 5, 2004) - Chief of Police Gene Simmons announced the Michigan City Police Department *Traffic Offenses of the Month*. In recognition of National Disabilities Month, officers will focus on Handicap Parking Violations; Using Signal for Turns and Lane Changes will also be a focus for the Michigan City Police Department during March 2004.

Traffic Offense #1 – Handicap Parking Violation

- Any person who parks a motor vehicle which does not have displayed a placard of a person with a physical disability or a disabled veteran, issued under IC 9-14-5 or under the laws of another state or registration plate of a person with a physical disability or a disabled veteran, issued under IC 9-18-18, IC9-18-22, or under the laws of another state, in a parking space reserved under this chapter for a vehicle of a person with a physical disability commits a Class C infraction.
 - (b) Any person who knowingly parks in a parking space reserved for a person with a physical disability while displaying a placard to which neither the person nor the person's passenger is entitled commits a Class C infraction.
 - (d) A person who, in a parking space reserved for a person with a physical disability, parks a vehicle that displays a placard or special registration plate entitling a person to park in a parking space reserved for a person with a physical disability commits a Class C infraction if that person is not, at that time, in the process of transporting a person with a physical disability of disabled veteran.

Note: The fine for a Handicapped Parking Violation is \$100.00

Traffic Offense #2 – Signal Required to Turn or Change Lanes (IC 9.21-8-25)

- A signal of intention to turn right or left shall be given continuously during not less than the last 200 feet traveled by a vehicle before turning or changing lanes. A vehicle traveling in a speed zone of at least 50 mph shall give a signal continuously for not less than the last 300 feet traveled by the vehicle before turning or changing lanes.

Regarding traffic safety, Chief Simmons said, "Rear end crashes can be prevented by proper signaling. Officers will be enforcing signaling violations and, as always, remember to buckle up, for your safety!"

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