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TRAVELING INTERSTATES 64 OR 66? IF SO, EXPECT TO SEE MORE VIRGINIA STATE POLICE TROOPERS ON THE ROAD *NEXT ROUND OF OPERATION AIR, LAND AND SPEED RESUMES*

RICHMOND – Five weeks after Virginia State Police troopers saturated Interstate 95 and Interstate 81, another round of *Operation Air, Land and Speed* returns to provide visible and vigorous traffic safety enforcement on Interstate 66 and Interstate 64 on Friday, Dec. 5, and Saturday, Dec. 6. As the holiday driving season gets underway, state police will conduct roaming patrols and radar during the traffic safety project. The two-day initiative will cover the entire length of both east-west bound interstates.



The upcoming December operation is the seventh and final Air, Land and Speed initiative for 2008. The concentrated safety effort is designed to prevent crashes, save lives and promote responsible driving behavior along Virginia's interstates.

The last *Operation Air, Land and Speed* phase which focused jointly on I-64 and I-66 was in November 2007 and produced a combined total of 4,954 summonses and arrests. Troopers stopped 1,529 speeders, 344 reckless drivers and two impaired drivers along the 300 mile stretch of I-64. In addition, 22 felony arrests were made and 210 safety belt violations were cited.

The same November operation generated a total of 1,458 along the entire 75 miles of I-66. The summonses and arrests included the following: 656 speeders, 115 reckless drivers and one drunk driver. Troopers also cited 31 safety belt violations and made eight felony arrests.

The dates and locations for Operation Air, Land and Speed are chosen based on the frequency of highway fatalities, anticipated heavy travel times, and in consideration of other major events and activities associated with an interstate corridor.

The comprehensive enforcement project will utilize troopers, supervisors, motorcycle units and motor carrier troopers. State police operational duties on other interstates, primary and secondary roads will not be affected during the operation. Funding for the enforcement initiative is provided through federal highway safety monies.

Additionally, in July, two troopers were hit on the same day during an Operation Air, Land and Speed enforcement. In 2008, a total of eight troopers have been struck while working on Virginia's interstates. With increased patrols on the interstates, state police would like to remind drivers about [Virginia's Move Over](#) law. The law requires drivers to change to another travel lane or, when unable to, to slow down and cautiously pass all emergency personnel stopped on the side of a road.



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