



News from the Ohio Turnpike

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www.ohioturnpike.org

For Immediate Release:

Turnpike Commission will pay tribute to fallen workers and highway patrolmen

Commission also seeks information from the families of those killed

BEREA (Oct. 16, 2017) – The Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission today approved a new Ohio Turnpike Memorial Sign program that will honor 12 men tragically killed while performing their duties on the Ohio Turnpike. The program also calls renewed attention to the state of Ohio’s Move Over law.

Below is a list of those who will be memorialized with the corresponding Ohio municipality and milepost of their incident. Their surviving family members are encouraged to contact the Ohio Turnpike’s Communications Department (440-971-2066) to help the Commission arrange for those killed to be properly recognized.

The Commission expresses gratitude and appreciation to Rep. Thomas F. Patton and Robert Perez Sr., the father of Trooper Robert Perez Jr., for requesting a program for those who were killed while working on or for the Ohio Turnpike.

“It’s appropriate to honor our maintenance workers and highway patrol troopers who were killed while performing their duties for the Ohio Turnpike,” said Randy Cole, executive director. “We also remind motorists to move over or slow down for any vehicle stopped with flashing lights. We must do everything we can to avoid any additional tragedies in the decades to come.”

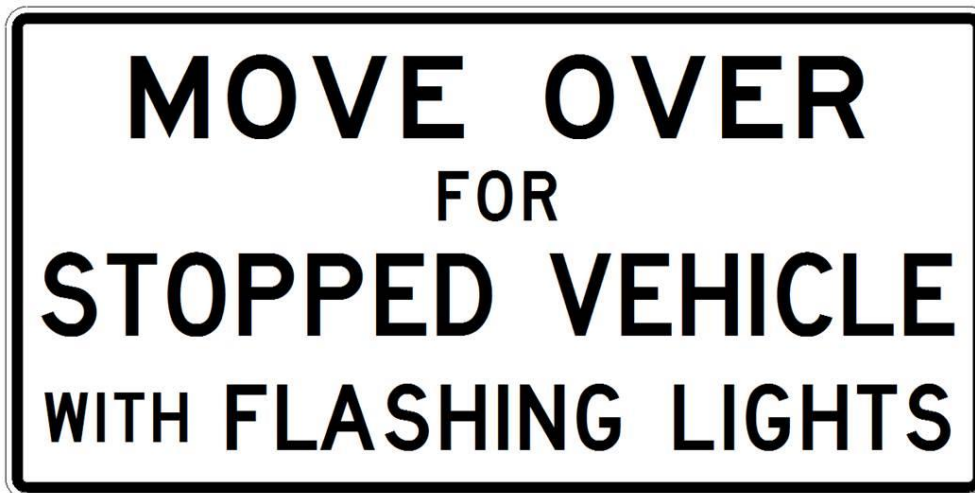
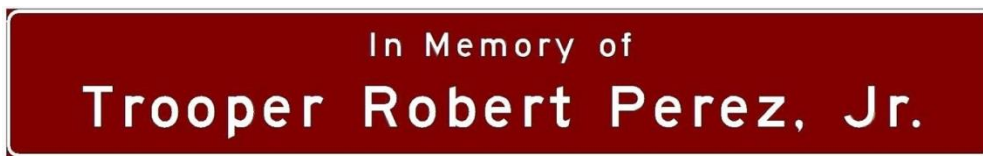
1. **Hudson**—May, 2015 Michael W. Kennedy, Interstate Towing.
2. **Sandusky Township**—Jan. 24, 2012, John Fletcher, Elmore Maintenance Section.
3. **Berlin Township**—May 15, 2000, Trooper Robert Perez, Jr., OSHP Post 90.
4. **Holiday City**—July 31, 1997, Duane E. Cisek, Kunkle Maintenance Section.
5. **Holiday City**—July 31, 1997 Richard L. Yoh, Kunkle Maintenance Section.
6. **Canfield Township**—1987, John Todd, Canfield Maintenance Section.
7. **Fulton Township**—1983, Kenneth W. Geiger, Swanton Maintenance Section.
8. **Amherst**—1978, Kermit C. Starkey, Amherst Maintenance Section.

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- 9. **Exact Location Unknown**—1977, Mike H. McConnell*
- 10. **Townsend Township**—Sept. 17, 1970, Kenneth C. Bailey, Castalia Maintenance Section.
- 11. **Townsend Township**—Sept. 17, 1970, Berton C. Stewart, Castalia Maintenance Section.
- 12. **Rossford**—Feb. 22, 1967, Trooper Jon D. Birchum, OSHP Post 89.

*Surviving family members or anyone with knowledge about Mike H. McConnell are asked to contact the Commission to help provide information about the location and other details.

Visual representation of the signs that will be posted along the Ohio Turnpike in the vicinity of Move Over signs and near the locations where they were killed, if applicable:



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For more information contact:

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