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**Montco Sheriff Bono supports Four Foot Safe Passing Law with roadside safety signs**

**Norristown, Pa., (October 2, 2015)** – Sheriff Russell J. Bono announced that the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Bike Patrol Unit will start placing approximately 250 bright yellow roadside signs along county roads to increase public safety and awareness of the Pennsylvania "Four Foot Safe Passing Law", which enhances safety for cyclists and can guide motorists' behavior with respect to cyclists.

In February 2012, the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code (Title 75) was amended to add the "Four Foot Safe Passing Law." The law states that when passing a cyclist, motorists must allow four feet between their vehicle and the bike they are passing.

"Our goal is to increase awareness about the amended law," said Bono. "Last year two cyclists were killed in Cheltenham and Pottsgrove, and one cyclist was injured when brushed by a local police officer's vehicle."

Additional provisions of the law state that turning motor vehicles may not interfere with a cyclist moving straight on a roadway and make it illegal to force a cyclist off the road.

"If we want to encourage more people to enjoy healthy lifestyles and sustainable living in our communities, we have to do everything we can to ensure their safety," Bono said. "But that doesn't mean that cyclists aren't also responsible for following the rules of the road."

Included in the law is the provision that cyclists must take reasonable steps to avoid disrupting traffic when riding in the traveling lane.



PHOTO: Montgomery County Sheriff Russell J. Bono addresses questions regarding the new bike safety signs with Chief Willie G. Richet, Bike Patrol Unit Commander Sgt. Patricia Haas, and Bike Patrol Unit member Lt. Thomas McDonald.

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