

**Special Enforcement to Target Speeders  
(KNZA)--Speeders beware!**

**Friday through Sunday, the Brown County Sheriff's Department, Hiawatha Police Department and Kansas Highway Patrol will join other law enforcement agencies in Kansas and five other states in a regional speed enforcement campaign called "Obey the Sign or Pay the Fine."**

**Officers will be on the lookout for those who are traveling above the speed limit on all roadways.**

**By concentrating law enforcement on high traffic corridors, organizers hope to put motorists on guard and encourage safe driving.**

**Hiawatha Police Chief John Defore said in a press release that as speed increases, the severity of crashes increases, including the risk for fatalities. Defore says "even one death is unacceptable."**

**Brown County Sheriff John Merchant says speeding is a serious problem on county roadways and has contributed to multiple traffic crashes, especially those that resulted in deaths. He says in order to get drivers to slow down and reduce the number of crashes and fatalities, they plan to intensify enforcement of posted speed limits in Brown County.**

**Nationwide, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says 27% of crash fatalities in 2015 were related to a driver exceeding the speed limit or driving too fast for conditions. The federal agency says 86 percent of all speeding-related traffic fatalities occurred on local roads where the posted speed limits were 55 miles per hour or under.**

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