

Sheriff: deputies to patrol school bus routes, issue citations

**(KNZA)--With the new school year set to begin, Brown County Sheriff John Merchant is warning motorists that deputies will be on patrol along school bus routes, and issuing citations to anyone who disobeys a school bus stop sign or other serious violations.**

**Merchant said state law requires all drivers to stop when approaching a school bus that has the flashing red lights and stop arm activated. Drivers are also required to stay stopped until the safety mechanisms are deactivated. Violations are punishable by fines of \$420 or more.**

**Merchant also reminds motorists to be extra careful as they drive through cities where children are crossing the street or riding their bicycles. In addition, he said those in rural areas should be especially aware at intersections where growing crops could impact visibility.**

**The Sheriff also urges students to look both ways before crossing a street and put down their phones down as they need to be observant at all times.**

**Merchant said teen drivers should allow themselves plenty of time to get to school and activities and to always wear their seatbelts.**

**Also he urges any student who is made aware of suspicious activity to immediately report it to parents, teachers or law enforcement officials.**

Many Signals Communications