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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DRIVERS AND PEDESTRIANS URGED TO SHOW CAUTION
Extra Care is Advised at Dusk

The Pocatello Police Department and the National Highway Traffic Association (NHTA) are reminding pedestrians and drivers to show extra caution at dusk or anytime visibility is limited.

Recent research indicates that pedestrian fatalities from cars soar at 6:00 p.m. during the weeks after clocks are set back in the fall. Researchers from Carnegie Mellon University found that walkers are three times as likely to be hit and killed by cars right after the switch to daylight savings time. Researchers believe that drivers go through an adjustment period when dusk arrives earlier.

Speed is also a major contributing factor in motor vehicle accidents of all types and has serious consequences when a pedestrian is involved. According to the NHTA, motorists are not as likely to see a pedestrian when driving at higher speeds. At speeds in excess of 40 MPH, motorists are even less likely to be able to stop in time to avoid hitting a pedestrian.

The NHTA states that motorists have a responsibility to adhere to the laws of the road and drive in a safe and observant manner at all times. Pedestrians are reminded to not enter the roadway unless it is clear for them to safely cross and to be aware that drivers may not be able to see them clearly in low light levels.

For more information, please contact the Pocatello Police Department at 234-6100.

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