FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 10, 2016

MINNESOTA STATE PATROL CRUISES INTO THE
TWIN CITIES AUTO SHOW
DPS Traffic Safety Experts to Give Demonstrations and Advice March 12 – 20

WHAT: Meet members of the Minnesota State Patrol, check out the workings of a squad car, and learn how to stay safe on Minnesota roadways at the 2016 Twin Cities Auto Show.

This year, Auto Show guests will also:
- Experience a roadside DWI test.
- Operate the AAA distracted driving simulator.
- View the ignition interlock system.
- Meet Matka, the newest member of the State Patrol’s K-9 team and its only explosives detecting dog.
- Ask questions about teen driving and child passenger safety car seats.

WHEN: State Patrol Troopers will be on the Auto Show floor throughout the event.
- 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. on March 12, 16, 18, 19
- 4:00 – 10:00 p.m. on March 14, 15, 17
- 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. on March 13 and 20

Demonstrations and Experts
- March 12 & 19, 12 – 3 p.m.: Drunk Goggles and Ignition Interlock Demonstration
- March 13, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.: Teen Driving Safety
- March 13, 2 – 4 p.m.: Meet Matka, with K-9 Demonstration at 2:15 p.m. and 3:15 p.m.
- March 16, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.: Distracted Driving Simulator
- March 20, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.: Child Passenger Safety Education
WHERE: Minneapolis Convention Center  
1301 Second Ave S  
Troopers, Squads and Experts will be located in the Ride and Drive Section

WHO: Minnesota State Patrol Troopers  
Jody Oscarson, Impaired Driving Coordinator  
Gordy Pehrson, Teen Driving Coordinator  
Heather Darby, Child & Passenger Safety Coordinator  
Matka, State Patrol Explosives Detecting K-9  
Kaj Meinhardt, Matka’s Partner

WHY: The mission of the Minnesota State Patrol and the Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety (DPS-OTS) is to keep the public safe on the roads. Through education and enforcement Troopers, hope to reduce the number of fatal and serious injury crashes in Minnesota.

Distracted Driving  
• Contributes to one in four crashes in Minnesota.  
• Contributes to an average of 60 deaths and 7,900 injuries a year (2012 – 2014)

DWIs continue to cost lives on Minnesota roads  
• One out of four deaths is drunk driving-related.  
• Results in 96 deaths per year.

The teen driving years can be scary for any parent  
• Traffic crashes are the leading killer of 16-17-year-olds in Minnesota after suicide.  
• An average of 32 teens are killed and more than 3,000 injured in motor vehicle crashes each year (2010 – 2014).

Child passenger seats save lives  
• Traffic crashes are a leading killer of youth.  
• Three out of four car seats are installed incorrectly.