



# Office of the Sheriff

## Berrien County

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### **L. Paul Bailey** **SHERIFF**

Charles E. Heit  
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With the beautiful weather of Southwest Michigan arriving, Sheriff L. Paul Bailey of the Berrien County Sheriff's Office would like to remind the public of some safe tips to ensure the safety of the motorcyclists and bicyclists utilizing the roadways.

### **MOTORCYCLISTS**

Always wear a DOT approved helmet.

Check yourself and your bike. Inspect and maintain your motorcycle and your protective gear.

Drive to survive. Ride smart and be prepared to react. Follow the rules of the road.

Watch your speed.

Give yourself space. It's tough for drivers to judge your speed properly.

Be alert to blind spots around big trucks. If you can't see the driver in the trucks side view mirror, the driver can't see you.

### **BICYCLISTS**

Always wear a helmet.

Inspect and maintain your bicycle and your protective gear.

Obey the same traffic rules as all motorists and obey all traffic signs and signals.

Before entering a public road, stop! Scan for traffic (look left-right-left) and signal before getting onto the roadway.

Ride on the right side of the road, close to the curb. Be prepared for rocks, sand, trash, and other obstacles.

Always use lights and reflectors if you ride at night.

### **OTHER DRIVERS**

Look for motorcycles and bicycles.

Check your blind spots.

Be aware that a motorcycle may seem farther away or moving faster than it actually is.

Allow more following distance.

Keep at least three feet away from bicyclists when passing them.

Watch for bicyclists at driveways, alleys, and intersections.

Be extra alert in neighborhoods and around schools.