



Twigg County Sheriff's Office

37 North Ash Street
Jeffersonville Ga. 31044
Twiggssheriff.org
478-945-3357

2011-2012 Richard Daniels Traffic Safety Essay Challenge

Eligible Contestants:

Juniors and seniors at both Twigg County High School and Twigg Academy Private School.

Awards and Winners:

There will be a first, second, and third place award given to students at both schools.

- 1st place will receive a plaque and \$75.00
- 2nd place will receive a plaque and \$50.00
- 3rd place will receive a plaque and \$25.00
- The 1st place award from each school will be published in the Twigg Times along with a photo of the author.

What is the subject of the essay? Topics to choose from:

- **Impaired Driving:** Driving under the influence either from alcohol, drugs, or prescription drugs.
- **Occupant Protection:** The use of seat belt restraint systems, child safety seats, or booster seats.
- **Speeding:** Drivers traveling faster than the posted speed limits.
- **Distracted Drivers:** The use of cell phones or any other electronic device while operating a motor vehicle. Examples; cell phones talking and texting, mp3 players or media players.

Submission Requirements:

- Essays must be in English (or translated into English) and contain no less than 300 words and no more than 800 words in length.
- Students may submit only one essay.
- Essays should be typed and printed, no hand written essays will be accepted.
- Essays will contain four paragraphs:

- I. **Introduction:** Briefly introduce yourself. Introduce the topic you have chosen. Describe why **you** feel that the topic is an important life safety issue in our community. If you have any first hand personal experiences that either you, a family member, or friend have experienced related to the topic you have chosen, share that.

- II. **Supportive Paragraph 1:** Explain the negative or positive effects that your topic has on our society. Explain the importance of addressing the issue in an effort to save lives, and reduce the number of crashes that result in either injuries or fatalities. This paragraph should comprise of your supporting information (such as research generated stats and figures). This is the only section students are encouraged to use the internet to help gather supporting information. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)www.nhtsa.gov , Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety www.gohs.state.ga.us Georgia Traffic Injury Prevention Institute www.ridesafegeorgia.org , Georgia DOT crash statistics www.dot.state.ga.us/statistics/CrashData/Pages/default.aspx . These are some sites that will give you current data on your essay topic.

- III. **Plan of Action:** Come up with and design a campaign that will convey your message to the community on the importance of your topic. It can be in the form of public relations campaigns, new laws, handouts, posters, billboards, educational lectures, or anything that comes to mind. Be creative and think outside the box.

- IV. **Conclusion:** Explain how you will deliver your campaign. Explain how you will get the message to the public. Explain your expectations of your campaign and how it will help to reduce crashes or how it will reduce injuries or fatalities.

How the essay will be judged

- Has all the necessary attributes of a quality essay.
- Is free from typographical and grammatical errors.
- The quality of research used.
- The quality of your analysis of the topic selected.
- Style and mechanics.
- The largest weight will be placed on the educational value and general readability of your Essay.

Who will judge your essay

Judges will be comprised of two members of the Friends of the Twiggs County Sheriff's Office and two members of the Twiggs County Sheriff's Office.

Submission Deadline

March 5th 2012. Essays will be collected at 1PM at both school locations. Winners will be announced on March 30th 2012.

This essay contest is dedicated to the memory of Deputy Richard Lynn Daniels. Deputy Richard Daniels was killed when his patrol car struck a fallen tree on U.S. 80, near Turkey Creek, at approximately 1:30 AM on June 22, 2010. Deputy Daniels served with the Twiggs County Sheriff's Office for four years and is survived by his wife and young daughter. One of his duties while as a deputy sheriff was to enforce Georgia's traffic laws. This essay challenge is the first annual contest in tribute to the lasting memory of Deputy Richard Lynn Daniels.