Tips for cyclists, drivers to make roads safer

More people commuting and recreating by bicycle has led to increased activity on Nevada highway and traffic bicycle lanes. This increase has led to a number of major injury incidents involving bicycles in the last several years. So far this year, there have been seven bicycle related fatalities in Nevada.

The following tips from the Washoe County Sheriff's Office for cyclists:

- Cyclists must obey all laws pertaining to driving, including all signs and signals, as if they were operating a motor vehicle.
- Always ride on the right and as far to the right side of the roadway as possible. While cyclists may use the travel lane, it is encouraged that they use a designated bicycle lane or to ride single file in traffic as a courtesy to other roadway users.
- Cyclists may not ride more than two abreast except on parts of roadway set aside for cyclists (bike lanes, cycletracs, buffered bike lanes, shared bike/bus lanes, etc.).

In the same manner, drivers in motor vehicles should remember to be aware of motorcycles and cyclists. Operators of motor vehicles should keep in mind that cyclists have the same rights as other drivers in Nevada.

In addition, drivers of vehicles should keep these safety tips in mind:

- When passing a cyclist you must move into an adjacent lane to the left, when possible. If changing lanes is not possible, you must allow at least 3 feet of

clearance between your car and the bicycle.

- At intersections, yield to cyclists as you would pedestrians or other vehicles
- Do not drive or park in designated bicycle lanes or paths unless needed for an emergency.

For more information and regarding bicycle safety and Nevada’s laws concerning cycling go .