

# Georgia State Patrol

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Please Address Reply To:

Georgia State Patrol  
Post 1, Griffin  
1313 Arthur K. Bolton Parkway  
Griffin, GA 30223

October 4, 2006

Mr. & Mrs. John Smith  
123 Smith Lane  
Griffin, GA 30223

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Smith,

This letter is to notify you that Jane was stopped by a Georgia State Patrol Trooper on October 3, 2006 for speeding (70 MPH in a 55 MPH speed zone). At that time she was issued a citation for this violation. The Georgia State Patrol believes that parents have the greatest influence on the driving behavior of their children and hopes that this notification can help initiate a dialog between you and your teen regarding the dangers of unsafe driving.

As the parent of a teenage driver, you may not be aware of the following facts:

- One out of four fatal crashes that occur involves drivers driving at a unsafe or illegal speed, mostly involving drivers ages 16 and 17
- Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teenagers.
- 16 year-olds have higher crash rates than drivers of any other age.
- It is estimated that 16-year-olds are 3 times more likely to die in a motor vehicle crash than the average of all drivers.
- 3,657 drivers age 15-20 died in car crashes in 2003, making up 14% of all drivers involved in fatal crashes, and 18% of all drivers involved in police-reported crashes (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration).
- 25% of teen drivers killed in 2003 had a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or greater. A BAC of .08 is the level at which all states define drunk driving. In Georgia, a person under the age of 21 is considered to be under the influence (DUI) if their BAC is .02 or more.
- Inexperience behind the wheel is the leading cause of teenage crashes.
- In 2001, two thirds of teens killed in auto accidents were not wearing seat belts.
- Almost half of the crash deaths involving 16-year-old drivers in 2003 occurred when the beginning drivers were driving with teen passengers (Insurance Institute for Highway Safety).
- Statistics show that 16 and 17-year-old driver death rates increase with each additional passenger (Insurance Institute for Highway Safety).

Please help us protect your teen driver by taking a few minutes to discuss the observed driving behavior with Jane. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (770) 229-3410.

Sincerely,

SFC Damon S. Riggins #546  
Post Commander