USF POLICE DEPARTMENT
MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: **January 26, 2016**

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SUBJECT: USF Police Conducting Grant Funded High Visibility Enforcement for Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety

The USF Police Department was awarded a $14,607 grant from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to conduct high visibility enforcement and education as part of Florida's Bicycle/Pedestrian Focused Initiative. "The safety of our citizens is paramount," said Chief Chris Daniel, "this grant aids in our quest to promote traffic safety and reduce bicycle and pedestrian related crashes."

According to The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV), traffic crashes in Florida resulted in 498 pedestrian fatalities, 7,467 pedestrian injuries, 135 bicyclist fatalities, and 6,520 bicyclist injuries. Based on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Traffic Safety Facts, these rates nearly double the national average for pedestrians and nearly triple the national average for bicyclists.

"We aim to reduce these staggering figures in 2015-16," said Chief Daniel. The USF Police Department plans to conduct multiple education and enforcement details focused on bicycle and pedestrian safety. Grant details began in October and are scheduled to run through May 2016. These first days of the initiative have focused on education. Beginning in Mid-January, violators may receive warnings or citations.

Remember: Alert Today. Alive Tomorrow.