

# Anderson County Sheriff's Office receives Alive at 25 Leadership Award

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From left are ACSO School Resource Officer Deputy Steve Weymouth, Sheriff John Skipper, SRO Matt Szymanski and SRO Tyrone Williams.

ANDERSON COUNTY — The South Carolina National Safety Council held its Fifth Annual Alive at 25 Coalition Benefit Dinner on Nov. 3 at the Marriott Hotel in Columbia.

The Alive at 25 Coalition Benefit Dinner offered the opportunity to bring together community leaders, law enforcement, businesses and families to raise awareness about the Alive at 25 program and the benefits the program offers to all communities around the state of South Carolina.

The Alive at 25 program is designed to be an early intervention course to help prevent traffic violations, collisions and automobile-related fatalities. The focus is to help educate young drivers to adopt safer driving practices, take responsibility for their behavior in various driving situations, and to be aware of many of the typical driving hazards.

The South Carolina National Safety Council and the Alive at 25 program has received a showing of support and endorsement from South Carolina's local government officials: District 22 Sen. Joel Lourie, State Superintendent of Education Mick Zais, Lexington County Sheriff James Metts, Fort Mill Police Chief Jeff Helms, Department of Public Safety director Kenny Lancaster, SLED Chief Mark Keel and Anderson County Sheriff John Skipper.

Also, S.C. Criminal Justice Academy director Hubert Harrell, Cayce Police Chief Charles McNair, Office of Highway Safety Director Phil Riley, Spartanburg County Coroner Rusty Clevenger, Lexington County Sheriff's Office Chief Keith Kirchner, North Police Chief Mark Fallaw and Columbia Metro Airport Chief Randy Blackman.

Also, Cherokee County Sheriff Steve Mueller, Richland County Coroner Gary Watts, Hartsville Police Captain Patricia Ray, Beaufort Sheriff's Office Captain Allan Horton, Darlington County Sheriff Wayne Byrd, Pelion Police Chief Chris Garner, Beaufort Police Major Dale McDorman, Pelion Mayor Charles Haggard and Lexington County coroner Harry Harman.

During the Fifth Annual Alive at 25 Coalition Benefit Dinner, the Anderson County Sheriff's Office was honored for its creative partnerships and traffic safety innovations pertaining to educating young drivers within the community in the hopes of reducing teen fatalities. It received the South Carolina National Safety Council's Leadership Award.

The South Carolina National Safety Council congratulates the Anderson County Sheriff's Office and the forward thinking of Sheriff John Skipper within Anderson County.

Motor vehicle crashes are the No.1 killer of teens today in the United States.

Unlike traditional driver's education courses that focus on the mechanics of driving, Alive at 25 addresses the behaviors of driving. Alive at 25 rewards good decision-making and provides tools on how to make good decisions when in a peer-pressure environment.

For more information, refer to [www.scnsc.org](http://www.scnsc.org).