



## PRESS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Headline: Ride of Silence to Shout Awareness

Toledo, OH - On May 18, 2016, at 7:00 PM, the Ride of Silence (now in its 13<sup>th</sup> year) will begin in North America and continue to roll across the globe. Cyclists will take to the roads in a slow, silent procession to honor cyclists who have been killed or injured while cycling on public roadways. Although cyclists have a legal right to Share the Road with motorists, the motoring public often isn't aware of these rights, and sometimes not aware of the cyclists themselves. The Ride of Silence is a free ride that asks its cyclists to ride no faster than 12 mph and remain silent during the ride. The Ride, which is held during National Bike Month, aims to raise the awareness of motorists, police and city officials that cyclists have a legal right to the public roadways.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Toledo Ride of Silence will start and end at the UT Parking Lot 1 North, located at the corner of Bancroft and North Towerview Blvd. The ride will cover 7.8 miles with escort provided by Toledo City Police, Ottawa Hills Police and UT Police and Toledo Fire and Rescue on bikes. Helmets are required. This event is free and open to the public and no registration is required. We are expecting over 200 cyclists to join the event.

The ride will depart promptly at 7PM so participants should arrive by 6:30PM. As in past years, we will pause at Ottawa Hills HS in memory of Dave Larabee, killed on his way home from work in 2005, Toledo Children's Hospital in memory of Dr. Stephen Snedden, killed while biking along River Road in Perrysburg Township, and Ottawa Park in honor of Robert Brundage. This year we will honor Matthew Billings and Jim Lambert, who was killed outside of Cleveland last September, and Eric Ramlow who was killed near Bowling Green last January. Eric and Matt were both University of Toledo alumni. We will also remember Emilee Gagnon and Harvey Bell III prior to the start of the ride.

This is a community event coordinated by We Are Traffic and supported by the Maumee Valley Adventurers, Maumee Valley Wheelmen, Toledo Bikes, Team Toledo and Toledo Area Bicyclists for all bicyclists.

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#### RIDE FACTS

- In 2015, there were 357 registered Ride of Silence events held in 49 states, 20 countries, on 7 continents.
- Information on the global Ride of Silence can be found at <http://rideofsilence.org>
- The Toledo Ride of Silence event details are located at <https://WeAreTraffic.org>