



Ellis County Law Enforcement Joint Press Release

For Immediate Release – March 12, 2024

Drag Races Come to Ellis County

The Texas Motorplex in Ennis is hosting a drag racing event from March 11th through the 17th, and we are excited about this event coming to Ellis County. Our concern as law enforcement is when spectators go from watching the event to participating in dangerous and illegal racing on the streets. This puts you, the citizens of Ellis County, at risk.

A task force consisting of local, county, and state law enforcement agencies will be out in force on our local roadways in order to curtail dangerous and illegal activity taking place surrounding the event. These agencies include the Ellis County Sheriff's Office, Midlothian Police Department, Red Oak Police Department, Ennis Police Department, Waxahachie Police Department, and the Ellis County and District Attorney's Office along with the Texas Department of Public Safety. Because of the danger associated with these street races and street takeovers, House Bill 1442 and 2899 enhanced the penalty for street racing and provides law enforcement and prosecutors tools to fight this crime. These laws permit law enforcement officers to criminally charge people who are found to be engaging in street racing and requires these officers to tow or even seize the vehicles used in these crimes. While this task force is out working this week, their ultimate concern is for the safety of all our neighbors who use our streets.

If you are traveling on US 287 around the Motorplex, you can expect heavy traffic and delays due to the event.

One of our best resources in putting a stop to dangerous activity and street racing is our citizens who see it. We know that our citizens will see an influx of high-performance street cars in the area. If you witness illegal street racing taking place in Ellis County, please call the Street Racing Task Force at (469) 309-4475 or 9-1-1.

Ellis County is a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family, and each of our agencies strives daily to ensure the safety of each individual. We are honored to serve each and every person living in or visiting our community.