



**Fairfax County Police Department
Franconia District Station**

6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310
703-922-0889. TTY 703-204-2264. Fax 703-719-6436

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/stations/franconia

Bulletin 10, Date Released 10/05/10

Contact: Officer Richard Henry / 703-922-0889 X5016

Information Bulletin: Ghost Cruiser Study Results

Visible Results for Ghost Cruiser

A traffic study regarding the Ghost Cruiser was conducted from September 13th thru September 16th and September 27th thru September 29th. An officer monitored the speed of vehicles on Pohick Road over I-95 without the Ghost Cruiser. He then compared those results to the speed of vehicles in the presence of the Ghost Cruiser.

The results indicated that the Ghost Cruiser had a significant impact on the speed of passing motorists. The average speed of the vehicles was reduced by over 9% and the number of vehicles exceeding the speed limit by 15 MPH was cut in half. The cruiser will continue to be used in order to make the highways of Franconia District safer.

Franconia Station Deploys Ghost

Drivers may have seen a ghost in the past few weeks as they traveled the highways of the Franconia District. A ghost cruiser has been positioned in a variety of places to decrease traffic infractions and increase highway safety. The cruiser is highly visible and serves as a reminder to drive responsibly.

Tinted windows prevent motorists from being able to see whether or not an officer is inside the cruiser. It is moved around the district frequently so that drivers do not become

accustomed to its presence.

Franconia District police officers encourage drivers to follow all traffic laws and to travel safely. They continue to patrol the highways and write tickets to violators.

Captain Shawn Bennett, Commander of the Franconia District Station, said "The ghost cruiser initiative is an effective way to slow motorists with minimal impact to the department's budget. While attending community events, I have been told by numerous citizens they have seen the ghost cruiser while driving and have slowed their speed. My goal is to reduce crashes and improve overall motorist safety without always having to write a ticket."



###