



**May 19, 2026**

Sergeant Ivan DeLaCruz, [ivan.delacruz@ssfca.gov](mailto:ivan.delacruz@ssfca.gov)

### **May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month**

**South San Francisco, California, May 19, 2026** — The South San Francisco Police Department is reminding drivers to always look twice for motorcycles. With the arrival of warmer weather, more motorcycles are taking to the roads, making it essential for everyone to stay alert to help reduce crashes and save lives.

“Motorcycles may be difficult to spot, so be extra careful before changing lanes,” Sergeant Ivan said. “A simple double take can make a life-saving difference. Motorcycle riders do not have the same protections drivers and passengers do. Let’s all do our part to keep each other safe out there.”

According to [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration data](#), there were 6,218 motorcyclists killed in traffic crashes in 2022, representing 15 percent of total highway fatalities for that year. In California, 634 motorcyclists were killed in 2022, an increase of 3.8 percent from 2021.

Throughout the month of May, The South San Francisco Police Department will conduct a traffic safety operation, throughout the month focused on driver behaviors that put motorcyclists at risk, such as speeding, making illegal turns, failure to yield right of way and stop sign/red light running.

To help protect you and your family, keep the following tips in mind while driving or riding:

#### **Drivers**

- Always check mirrors and blind spots before changing lanes.
- Do not follow a motorcycle too closely. Always keep a safe distance.
- If you see a motorcycle with a signal on, be careful. Be sure that the rider is turning before moving ahead.

#### **Motorcyclists**

- Always wear a U.S. [DOT-compliant helmet](#) with eye protection.

- Wear leather or other sturdy clothing such as a jacket, pants, boots with nonskid soles and gloves. Add reflective strips or decals to your clothing and motorcycle to make it easier for other drivers to see you.
- Ride defensively. Don't assume a driver can see you. Avoid riding in a driver's blind spot.
- Always keep your lights on, even during the day.

Lastly, both drivers and riders should never drive/ride distracted or under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

**# # #**

### **About the City of South San Francisco**

The City of South San Francisco proudly remains The Industrial City, a reflection of its steel mill and ship building past, redefined to reflect the innovative, entrepreneurial, and industrious spirit which has made South San Francisco the Biotech Capital of the World, with nearly 250 active biotech companies and growing. A vibrant community of 66,185 residents with a daytime population of 90,000 workers and visitors, South San Francisco enjoys a high quality of life with an extensive public parks system, active library and learning programming, and a dynamic, engaged community making South San Francisco a great place to live, learn, work, and play.

