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A STATE ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT

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For Immediate Release: November 26, 2018

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"Where Are They Now"

AGENCY

Officers to Conduct Traffic Enforcement and Education in Non-Traditional Attire

Tampa, Fla.: In an effort to promote safety and reduce speeding on campus, USF Police will conduct traffic enforcement activities while wearing USF Facilities employees' uniforms. The initiative is designed to encourage motorists to drive slower and watch for pedestrians. Officers want to bring awareness to the posted speed limit and the hazards in and around highly congested areas on campus.

Officer Hector Torres launched the program as a way to make people aware of the potential dangers and hazards that exist on campus roadways. Officer Torres explains how USF is a dynamic environment. "There are people in multiple modes of transportation moving throughout campus," Torres says. "You have pedestrians, bicyclists, skateboarders, motorcyclists, and drivers all trying to get to their destination." Torres states this can be even more complicated if individuals are distracted or speeding. Officer Torres recently spoke with a Facilities groundskeeper who stated that she has had to make sudden turns on a golf cart to avoid a collision. "As I went through the parking lot, a student didn't see me. I had to swerve to the left to keep from getting hit...it was scary."

USF Police Chief Chris Daniel says individuals often exceed the speed limit. "The posted speed on campus is 25 mph," Daniel explains. "Motorists are either distracted or ignore the speed limit. We want to use this platform as a way to improve safety and educate our community to avoid potential incidents."

Officer Torres states the focus is on safety. "Safety on campus is our main concern," he explains. "We want everyone who enters the university environment to understand the rules of the road both on and off campus."

Students are encouraged to remember the following tips:

- > Be keenly aware of the environment around you awareness is key.
- Anticipate the unexpected on the campus roads and sidewalks.
- > Always monitor your speed on campus the speed limit is 25 mph.

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