

**MEDINA MUNICIPAL COURT**  
**July 31, 2012**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Today, Judge Dale Chase announced that the Medina Municipal Court will offer drivers over 60 access to a program this fall that will both educate them and save them some money. The program, Keeping Us Safe, is run by Matt Gurwell, a former lieutenant with the Ohio State Patrol. It is designed to help older drivers and their family deal with the issues and challenges they face. This program is a joint effort with the Medina County HANDS Foundation supported by funding through the Medina County Drug Abuse Commission. "The purpose of this program is to educate people and save lives," said Judge Chase.

The program is available to drivers over 60 who are cited for a minor misdemeanor traffic offense that involved a crash. These include violations such as speeding, improper backing, assured clear distance, and failing to stop for a red light or stop sign. When the court receives the traffic ticket, it will send a letter to the offender with information about the program.

For drivers over 60 who are found guilty of any minor misdemeanor involving a crash, once the offender has paid the fine and court costs, if the driver chooses to complete the program, the court will send the driver a check for a refund of their fine. There is no cost to the drivers or their families for attending the program.

"We are glad to be able to offer this option to drivers over 60," said Judge Chase. "Whether a crash is caused by a moment of inattention or whether it is a sign of diminishing driving skills, the program will give these drivers a look at the changes we all face as we age."

The court will begin referrals for offenses occurring from September 1 through November 30 this year. The program will be offered in early December. Drivers may attend the program alone or with family members. More program information will be available soon at the Keeping Us Safe website, [keepingussafe.org](http://keepingussafe.org) or by calling Keeping Us Safe toll free at **877-907-8841**.