

## **May 4, 2012 - SFD/SPD Promotes Cyclist Safety Awareness**

*The City will be observing month of May as National Bike Safety Month*

In an effort to reduce the number of accidents involving cyclist, the Shreveport Fire and Police Departments have teamed-up to remind motorists to use extreme caution when approaching cyclist. The year-to-date accident report stats for 2012 indicate that at least seven citizens have been transported to local hospitals after being struck by motorist. As we enter into the summer months when we see more accidents on the roads, both the cyclists and motorists should know and follow the safety rules outlined by the Department of Public Safety.

To also help promote this awareness, the City will be observing month of May as National Bike Safety Month.

The Shreveport Fire and Police Departments offers the following safety tips for drivers and riders as we enter the bicycle recreational season:

- **Cyclist should always ride with the traffic and use the outermost right lane with traffic flow**
- **Cyclist and motorist should obey all traffic signals and stop signs.**
- **Cyclist should make their intentions known to motorist by using proper signals for turning or changing lanes.**
- **Cyclist should be conspicuous by wearing reflective clothing as well as using a white reflective front light and red reflective rear light for night riding.**
- **Anticipate the actions of other cyclist, motorist and pedestrians. Be vigilant of others using the roadway.**
- **Make sure tires are properly inflated and brakes are working.**
- **Cyclist should always wear a helmet.**
- **Dial 9-1-1 to report any unsafe activity on local roadways.**
- **The operator of a motor vehicle, when overtaking and passing a bicycle proceeding in the same direction on the roadway, shall leave a safe distance between the motor vehicle and the bicycle of not less than three feet and shall maintain such clearance until safely past the overtaken bicycle. Violators shall be fined up to \$250.00 ###**