

For Immediate Release

October 31, 2024

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Media Advisory

Ensign John R. Elliott HERO Campaign and NJDOT host I-295/Route 42 Memorial Interchange Dedication Ceremony in Bellmawr, Camden County

Thursday, November 7 at 11 am

Who: NJDOT Commissioner Fran O'Connor

Ensign John R. Elliott HERO Campaign Founder and CEO Bill Elliott

NJ State Senator Vince Polistina Egg Harbor Police Chief Fred Spano

What: The Ensign John R. Elliott HERO Campaign and the New Jersey Department of

Transportation (NJDOT) will host a **ceremony to dedicate the I-295/Route 42 Interchange as the Ensign John R. Elliott Memorial Interchange.** Police Cars from 20 departments wrapped with the HERO Campaign logo will be on display

When: Thursday, November 7, 2024

11 a.m.

Where: Bellmawr Baseball Batting Cages

100 Essex Avenue Bellmawr, NJ 08031

Rain Bellmawr Park Fire Company

Location: 12 Essex Avenue

Bellmawr, NJ 08031

Parking: Bellmawr Baseball Park

RSVP: Bill Elliott Lizzy Galamba

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About the Ensign John R. Elliott HERO Campaign:

The <u>Ensign John R. Elliott HERO Campaign</u> is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to preventing drunk driving deaths and injuries by promoting the use of responsible designated drivers.

On July 22, 2000, two months after graduating with distinction from the United States Naval Academy, Ensign John R. Elliott was killed in a head-on collision with a drunk driver, while driving home on Route 40 – an undivided, two-lane highway.

Bill Elliott, father of John and founder of the HERO Campaign, believes that had the new I-295/Route 42 Interchange, also known as "Missing Moves," been available as a travel option John's life may have been spared 24 years ago. The new ramps connecting I-295 northbound to Route 42 southbound, and Route 42 northbound to I-295 southbound

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opened in November 2023, allowing the direct movement of traffic between the two roadways for the first time.

To remind motorists of the dangers of driving under the influence and to memorialize John's life, the Elliott family with the support of Acting Governor Nicholas Scutari, NJDOT Commissioner Fran O'Connor, Senator Vince Polistina, Senator Nilsa Cruz-Perez, and the New Jersey Senate and Assembly, proposed naming the new I-295/Route 42 Interchange in honor of Ensign John Elliott. The interchange will be marked with memorial signs that will be unveiled on November 7, 2024 – just before the First Anniversary of the completion of NJDOT's "Missing Moves" I-295/Route 42 Interchange project.

Directions: From the North:

- Take I-295 southbound and stay right for I-295/Route 42 southbound/Delaware Memorial Bridge/Atlantic City
- Stay left and follow signs for Route 42 southbound
- Take Exit 14/Creek Road/Bellmawr
- Turn right onto Harding Avenue
- Turn left onto Creek Road, which becomes Essex Avenue
- The Bellmawr Baseball Park will be on the right

From the South:

- Take I-295 northbound to Exit 23 onto Route 130 northbound
- Turn right onto River Drive
- Turn left onto Broadway/Route 47 northbound
- Turn right onto Creek Road
- Turn left onto Essex Avenue
- The Bellmawr Baseball Park will be on the right

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