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MEDIA ALERT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 19, 2011

The Allstate Foundation Partners With Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) to Promote Teen Safe Driving During National Youth Traffic Safety Month *Hermleigh High School to Conduct Activities on May 20, 2011*

- Who:** Teen members of the SAVE Chapter at Hermleigh High School in Hermleigh, TX.
- What:** **Teen Safe Driving Event.** Sponsored by the Allstate Foundation, the newly formed Hermleigh High School SAVE Chapter, advised by Elaine Gibson and Tracy Dickerhoff, will hold a Teen Safe Driving/SAVE assembly to educate and empower others with Teen Safe Driving skills and youth safety strategies. SAVE leaders, theater arts students, and students from the Family and Community Service class will be informing 7-12th grade students on the dangers of reckless driving. The presentation will include activities, door prizes, skits, a video, a chain of life, and a safe driving pledge to sign. Topics include distracted driving, drinking and driving, texting and driving, and encouraging passengers to speak up when they feel a driver is putting their life in danger. Upon conclusion of the safe driving presentation, the chapter will introduce SAVE by showing the introductory video and SAVE members will be available for questions thereafter.
- How:** Media is invited to speak with students about safe driving tips for all teens and the challenges and consequences of unsafe teen driving habits.
- When:** 9:00 am, Friday, May 20, 2011
- Where:** Hermleigh High School
1026 School Avenue
Hermleigh, TX 79526

SAVE is a peer-to-peer organization that focuses on the power of positive peer influences. According to a recent Allstate Foundation survey, *Shifting Teen Attitudes: The State of Teen Driving 2009*, peers are a major influence on teens – both positive and negative. Some of the concerning statistics that SAVE chapters will address include:

- Eighty-two percent of teens reported using cell phones while driving.
- Nearly half (48 percent) of girls admit they are likely to speed more than 10 mph over the limit, versus 36 percent of boys.
- Seventy-seven percent of teens admit they have felt unsafe with another teen's driving.

About the National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere:

SAVE started at West Charlotte High School in Charlotte, N.C. in 1989 following the tragic death of a student who was trying to break up a fight at an off-campus party. Students met first to console each other, then as an organization to promote violence prevention and to work together to prevent future incidents from occurring. SAVE provides education about the effects and consequences of violence and helps provide safe activities for students, parents and communities. For more information on SAVE or starting a SAVE chapter, visit www.nationalsave.org, or contact SAVE at (866) 343-SAVE to receive free start-up materials and guidance.

About The Allstate Foundation:

Established in 1952, The Allstate Foundation is an independent, charitable organization made possible by subsidiaries of The Allstate Corporation (NYSE: ALL). Allstate and The Allstate Foundation sponsor community initiatives to promote safe and vital communities; tolerance, inclusion, and diversity; and economic empowerment. The Allstate Foundation believes in the financial potential of every individual and in helping America's families achieve their American dream.

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