

## **Police Department Targets Tailgating 07/02/12**

Since January of 2012 the Joplin Police Department has generated 948 accident reports. The third highest contributing circumstance is “following too closely” or “tailgating”. In an effort to reduce those crashes the police department will be attempting to raise awareness by increasing enforcement. With funding provided by Missouri Highway and Transportations Commission Blueprint for Safer Roadways, the Joplin Police Department purchased a new Laser Technologies Distance Between Cars (DBC) handheld LASER. Along with measuring the speed of a vehicle the DBC will measure the time and distance between two moving vehicles. The information obtained will provide accurate information that can be used as evidence in court. Up to this point Following too Closely was determined only by observation.

The Police Department would like to remind people to follow the rules of the road and make sure they are allowing enough space behind the vehicle in front of them, to react in a timely manner. The faster the speed the more distance a driver should allow.

For further information contact Sgt. Rusty Rives at 417-627-8880.