



CITY OF SAN BRUNO
POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

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This Labor Day, Remember: *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*

San Bruno Police Department Shows Zero Tolerance In Its Goal To End Drunk Driving

This Labor Day weekend, families and friends will be celebrating the end of the summer. Sadly, this festive time has also become a dangerous time for America's roads, as many drunk drivers get behind the wheel after celebrating. For this reason, the San Bruno Police Department is partnering with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to stop drunk drivers and help save lives. The high-visibility national enforcement campaign, *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*, runs from August 19, 2016 through September 5, 2016. During this period, local law enforcement will actively seek to deter and detect drunk driving. Increased national messaging about the dangers of driving drunk, coupled with sobriety checkpoints and increased officers working DUI Saturation Patrols on the road, aim to drastically reduce drunk driving on our nation's roads.

The San Bruno Police Department will deploy a DUI/Driver's License checkpoint and special roving DUI Saturation Patrols to stop and arrest alcohol and drug impaired drivers during the end of summer 18 day DUI campaign. Police will be out looking for the tell-tale signs of drunk driving in order to stop and arrest impaired drivers throughout the region.

According to NHSTA, over 10,000 people died each year (2010 to 2014) in drunk-driving crashes nationwide, while California recorded 882 deaths. During the 2014 Labor Day holiday weekend (6 p.m. August 29 – 5:59 a.m. September 2), 40 percent of the fatalities in traffic crashes involved drunk drivers, which was the highest percentage over the five years from 2010 to 2014. Nighttime proves to be the most dangerous time to be out on the roads: during the 2014 Labor Day holiday period, 83 percent of drunk-driving crash fatalities occurred between 6 p.m. and 5:59 a.m. – as compared to half of all drunk-driving crash fatalities throughout the rest of that year.

Additionally, 40 percent of crash fatalities on Labor Day weekend in 2014 involved drunk drivers (with blood alcohol concentrations [BACs] of .08 or higher), amounting to 162 lives lost nationwide and 20 in California. And, we're not just talking about a little bit of alcohol, either. More than a quarter (28%) of the crash fatalities that occurred on Labor Day weekend involved drivers with BACs of .15 or higher—almost twice the illegal limit.

“People need to understand that drunk driving is not only illegal, but it is also deadly,” said San Bruno Police Chief Ed Barberini. “Drunk driving is an enormous problem in the United States, with more than

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10,000 people dying annually. Drivers must pay attention to their own driving and also be aware of others on the road who may be driving drunk,” he added. “It *is* your business. If you think you see a drunk driver, report them – call 911.”

The reality is that people aren’t invincible. Of the 9,967 people who were killed in impaired-driving crashes in 2014, 64 percent were the drunk drivers themselves. Those 6,391 drunk drivers thought they would make it to their destinations, but they didn’t.

“This is important to remember: do not drive if you’ve been drinking at all,” said San Bruno Police Sergeant Ryan Johansen. “You may think you aren’t impaired, but even moderate alcohol consumption can hamper your ability to drive safely. Our law enforcement professionals’ skills in detecting and identifying drunk drivers have never been better. They will spot you and arrest you,” Sergeant Johansen said.

San Bruno PD reminds everyone:

- Plan a safe way home before the fun begins.
- Before drinking, designate a non-drinking driver.
- Drivers are encouraged to download the Designated Driver VIP, or “DDVIP,” free mobile app for Android or iPhone. The DDVIP app helps find nearby bars and restaurants that feature free incentives for the designated sober driver, from free non-alcoholic drinks to free appetizers and more. The feature-packed app even has social media tie-ins and even a tab for the non-DD to call Uber, Lyft or Curb.
- **DRUGS, MEDICATION & ALCOHOL = CRASHES:** Recent statistics reveal that 30 percent of drivers in fatal crashes had one or more drugs in their systems. A study of active drivers showed more tested positive for drugs that may impair driving (14 percent) than did for alcohol (7.3 percent). Of the drugs, marijuana was most prevalent, at 7.4 percent, slightly more than alcohol.
- If you know someone who is about to drive or ride while impaired, take your friend’s keys and help your friend make other arrangements to get to where he or she is going safely

As the summer winds to an end, remember that there’s no excuse for drunk or impaired driving. *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.*

Funding for the extra DUI enforcement operations comes through a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

