



ANAHEIM POLICE DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
(714) 765-1521 • Fax: (714) 765-1554
425 S. Harbor Blvd. • Anaheim • CA • 92805
John Welter, Chief of Police

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 16, 2009

Contact: Sgt. Rick Martinez

Phone: (714) 765-1521

Subject: **SOBRIETY CHECKPOINT FOR OCTOBER 17, 2009**

The Anaheim Police Department host a total of 6 Sobriety and Drivers License checkpoints, starting with one on **Harbor Boulevard near La Palma Park on Saturday, October 17, 2009** from 8:00 PM to 3:00 AM Sunday, October 18, 2009. In addition to checking for DUI drivers, officers will be checking those driving with suspended licenses. Safe driving pamphlets will be handed out to drivers screened at the checkpoint. Checkpoints are designed to bring DUI awareness to the most number of drivers.

The Anaheim Police Department has been awarded a DUI enforcement and awareness grant to combat DUI for a total of \$205,115. Funding for this program is provided through a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. This funding will supplement the departments' overall commitment to lower DUI related traffic collisions. These additional monies will fund additional sobriety checkpoints, DUI patrols and other efforts to help bring about a zero level of DUI in the city of Anaheim.

The additional saturation patrols funded by the grant will increase the number of officers in the field to help assist the program "Report Drunk Drivers: Call 9-1-1". With the grant's funding, Anaheim Police will add 4 additional officers to the field nearly every weekend during the next twelve months. These additional officers will be able to respond quicker to 9-1-1 calls by those reporting erratic drivers on our streets.

New this time is the addition of the OTS Motorcycle Safety Campaign. The Anaheim Police will conduct four Motorcycle Safety and Enforcement programs over the next year. The department will take to the streets and focus on the motorcycle rider. Officers plan on working with motorcycle shops, clubs and dealers in the area to first educate the rider and then ensure they are in compliance with the law. DUI and the proper use of helmets will be the first on the list as these are the primary causes of death and serious injury to the motorcycle riding public.

For any media questions, contact Sergeant Rick Martinez at (714) 497-6608 or email him at Rmartinez@anaheim.net

Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving Don't Let This Fourth of July Blow Up in Your Face!

Drunk driving is one of California's deadliest problems. In 2006 (latest figures available), 4,196 people were killed in motor vehicle crashes. There were 1,597 killed in traffic crashes that were alcohol involved, with another 31,099 injured.

Much of the tragedy from drunk driving can be prevented with a few simple precautions before going out to celebrate:

- § Plan a safe way home before the festivities begin
- § Before drinking, designate a sober driver and give that person your keys
- § If you're impaired, use a taxi, call a sober friend or family member, or use public transportation so you are sure to get home safely
- § If you happen to see a drunk driver on the road, don't hesitate to Call 9-1-1
- And remember, *Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk*. If you know someone who is about to drive or ride while impaired, take their keys and help them make other arrangements to get to where they are going safely.

Driving impaired is simply not worth the risk. The consequences are serious and real. Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for driving while impaired can be significant. Violators will face jail time, the loss of their driver's license, higher insurance rates, and dozens of other unanticipated expenses.