



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: July 3, 2008

Contact: Sgt. Rick Martinez

Phone: (714) 497-6608

Subject: **4th of July holiday Orange County Sobriety Checkpoints & Patrols**

Anaheim, CA - In 2007, 24 individuals in California died in traffic related crashes during the Fourth of July holiday period. That's why the "Avoid the 28" DUI Campaign – Orange County announced they will be joining with other highway safety and law enforcement officials statewide and throughout the country to remind all Fourth of July party-goers that *Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving* and to designate a sober driver before the celebrations begin.

In the **City of Cypress**; a sobriety checkpoint has been scheduled for **Saturday, July 5, 2008, at Valley View and Phyllis.**

In the cities of **Anaheim, Brea, Cypress, Fountain Valley, Garden Grove, Irvine, La Habra, La Palma, Los Alamitos, Orange, Placentia and Seal Beach** – Roving DUI Saturation Patrols are scheduled throughout the holiday weekend with most of the activity occurring on Saturday.

AVOID programs are named for the number of police agencies in each county. The programs seek to publicize the combined DUI efforts of all law enforcement agencies in California to raise awareness of the problems associated with drinking and driving, especially during major holiday periods.

Don't let this Fourth of July blow up in your face. Remember, *Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving*. Designate your sober driver before the parties begin. Sobriety Checkpoints and Local DUI Saturation Patrols are planned in the following communities:

For additional information relating to a specific city, please contact the agency's Public Information Officer. For additional information about the Avoid Program and operational plans from around the region, information can be found at www.californiaavoid.org. Statistical data on the number of DUI arrests and DUI fatal crashes will be released from the previous day's activities.

Funding for the "Avoid" program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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.