



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Avoid the 38-Orange County DUI Campaign Launches ‘*Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest*’ Crackdown on August 21, 2009**

### ***Major Enforcement Effort Seeks to Save Lives***

**Anaheim, CA** – The Avoid the 38-Orange County DUI Task force today announced its officers will be out in full force during the Labor Day holiday period, beginning August 21. A combined effort by officers and deputies of the Orange County’s Police Departments and Sheriff’s Department will make this one of the largest efforts to date combating DUI. They will join thousands of other law enforcement and highway safety agencies throughout the nation as they take part in the *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest* crackdown on impaired driving. The enforcement blitz will last through the holiday weekend.

Drunk driving is one of America’s deadliest crimes. In 2008, over 11,700 people died in highway crashes involving a driver or motorcycle operator with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher. In California the provisional data for 2008 just released indicates that 1029 died in Alcohol Involved Collisions. This data reveals a 9 percent reduction in deaths from 2007.

The picture for motorcycle riders is particularly bleak. In fatal crashes in 2007, a higher percentage of motorcycle riders (27 percent) had a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher than any other type of motor vehicle driver.

“Make no mistake. Our message is simple. No matter if you’re driving or riding — if we catch you driving impaired, we will arrest you. No exceptions. No excuses,” said Police Chief John Welter. We will be out in force to get more drunk drivers off the road—and save lives that might otherwise be lost.

“Californians and members of our communities continue to see far too many killed and many people with debilitating injuries as a result of impaired driving. This careless disregard for human life must stop. To help ensure that happens, Avoid the 28- Orange County is dedicated to arresting impaired drivers wherever and whenever we find them,” said Chief John Welter.

“Drunk driving is simply not worth the risk. Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for impaired driving can be significant,” said Chief John Welter. “Violators often face jail time, the loss of their driver’s license, higher insurance rates, attorney fees, time away from work, and dozens of other expenses. So don’t take the chance. Remember, if you are caught over the limit, you will be placed under arrest.”

The national *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.* impaired driving crackdown is a program organized by the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) that focuses on combining high-visibility enforcement with heightened public awareness through advertising and

publicity. The Program is funded through the California Office of Traffic Safety who reminds everyone to please – Report Drunk Driving – Call 9-1-1!

This year's effort is supported by \$13 million in paid-national advertising to help put everyone on notice that if they are caught driving impaired, they will be arrested.

For more information, visit [www.StopImpairedDriving.org](http://www.StopImpairedDriving.org) and [www.californiaavoid.org](http://www.californiaavoid.org).

**Media Notes:** To schedule an interview regarding Anti Drunk-Driving efforts, or request a ride-along with law enforcement during the holiday period, please contact Sgt. Rick Martinez at 714 765-1521 or via email at [rmartinez@anaheim.net](mailto:rmartinez@anaheim.net).

## **Avoid the 38, – Orange County Summer Labor DUI Enforcement Schedule of Operations**

### **ORANGE COUNTY LABOR DAY ENFORCEMENT SCHEDULE**

**Anaheim, CA]** - Orange County's Avoid the 38 is announcing its upcoming enforcement operations for the Summer/Labor Day weekend DUI Mobilization in partnership with Law Enforcement Agencies Nationwide. This is a joint venture combining the Enforcement programs of the Avoid the 28 and the Avoid the 10, managed by the Orange County Sheriff's Department. The following schedule of operations, dates, and locations are provided for media release.

- DUI/DL CHECKPOINT- Fri, Aug 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009 1900-0300, City of Fullerton
- DUI/DL CHECKPOINT- Fri, Sept. 4, 2009 1900-0300, City of Dana Point
- Warrant/Probation Sweep – **EMBARGOED** Mid Week Aug 24<sup>th</sup>, City of Anaheim **EMBARGOED**
- DUI TASKFORCE OPERATIONS – Sat, Sep 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009, 2000-0200, City of La Habra
- DUI Saturation Patrols - Sat, Aug 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009 2000-0300, County of Orange
- DUI/CDL CHECKPOINT- Sat, Aug 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009 1900-0300, City of Anaheim
- DUI/CDL CHECKPOINT - Fri, Aug 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009 1900-0300, City of Irvine
- DUI Saturation Patrols - Sat, Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009 2000-0300, County of Orange
- DUI Saturation Patrols - Sun. Sept 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009 2000-0300, County of Orange
- DUI Saturation Patrols - Fri. Aug 21<sup>st</sup>, through Mon. Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>, Orange County agencies will be conducting a total of 30 Saturation patrols funded by the Avoid Grant in the cities of Brea, Buena Park, Cypress, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Huntington Beach, La Habra, Los Alamitos, Newport Beach, Orange, Placentia, Seal Beach, Westminster and the University of California at Irvine and the California State University at Fullerton

Additional information about the Avoid Program and operational plans from around the region can be found at [www.californiaavoid.org](http://www.californiaavoid.org). Statistical data on the number of DUI arrests and DUI fatal crashes will be released from the previous day's activities throughout the holiday weekend.

**Media Notes:** Reporters are invited to ride along with law enforcement or may join Task Force & checkpoint operations in your region throughout the Campaign by contacting the PIO contact listed above.

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



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