



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO



NEWS RELEASE

Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OPERATION SAFE CROSSING AT THE SAN YSIDRO BORDER

(San Diego) The San Diego Police Department will conduct an Operation Safe Crossing detail at the San Ysidro Port of Entry on October 27 & 28, 2006. It will include officers from the San Diego Police Department, US Navy & Marine Corps Shore Patrol and Federal Police.

Operation Safe Crossing is a multi-agency alliance that seeks to prevent alcohol related problems at the San Ysidro border that result from the large numbers of young people entering into Mexico to drink and party. The drinking age in Mexico is 18. This lower drinking age prompts large numbers of juveniles to attempt to enter Mexico to try and get into the bars.

Officers will monitor checkpoints to identify persons under the age of 18 who are attempting to enter into Mexico. Juveniles (under 18) are not allowed to cross the border if a parent or a legal guardian does not accompany them. A parent, or legal guardian, may authorize them to pass without being with the child but the minor must be in possession of a notarized letter authorizing them to travel across the border. Curfew restrictions will be enforced during the weekend. Curfew restricts minors under the age of 18 from being out in public. Curfew extends from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m. the following day. Authorized school events and travel from work are exemptions to the curfew ordinance.

As people return to the U.S. from Mexico, Officers will also take a strict enforcement posture for violations such as driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, public intoxication, and disorderly or violent behavior. Military travel restrictions will be enforced by Shore Patrol.

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