

To Maintain

Peace and

Order by

## San Diego Police Department Traffic Safety Office

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## PRESS RELEASE

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## Pacific Beach DUI Checkpoint Nets 8 DUI Arrests

Providing theOn February 5, 2016 the San Diego Police Department conducted a DUI checkpoint in the<br/>2600 block of Ingraham Street in Pacific Beach. The checkpoint was made possible by a<br/>California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) "STEP Grant."

Quality PoliceThe checkpoint was operational from 11:05 pm until 3:00 am. 638 vehicles passed through the<br/>checkpoint, with 521 of those motorists being screened by officers. 20 motorists were detained<br/>for a further evaluation of their sobriety at the checkpoint, and 8 arrests were made for DUI in<br/>or near the checkpoint. 8 vehicle impounds were also conducted.

"The message is simple, *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*. Drinking alcohol and driving do not mix. If you plan to consume alcohol, you should also plan not to get behind the wheel of a vehicle or ride a motorcycle," said Officer Mark McCullough.

The San Diego Police Department recommends these simple tips:

- Plan a safe way to get home *before* you attend the party. Alcohol impairs judgment, as well as reaction time. If you're drunk you're more likely to choose to drive drunk.
- Designate a sober driver, take public transportation, a car service, or a call a sober friend or family member to get home.
- Walking while impaired can be just as dangerous as drunk driving. Designate a sober friend to walk you home.
- Report Drunk Drivers Call 911.
- If you see someone you think is about to drive while impaired, take their keys and help them get home safely.

The national *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* crackdown is led by the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) and NHTSA, with the California Avoid DUI Task Force Campaign, combining high-visibility enforcement and heightened public awareness through publicity.

**Media Notes:** To schedule an interview regarding Anti Drunk-Driving efforts, or request a ride-along with law enforcement during a holiday period, please contact Officer Mark McCullough at (619) 818-4860 or via email at <u>mmccullough@pd.sandiego.gov</u>.