



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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CONTACT:

Officer Mark McCullough
(619) 488-0808
mmccullough@pd.sandiego.gov

San Diego Police Department Plans DUI Checkpoint and Roving DUI Patrols Valentine's Day Weekend

(San Diego, CA) San Diego Police Department Traffic Unit officers will be conducting a DUI/Driver's License checkpoint at an undisclosed location within the City limits. This will be in conjunction with several special roving DUI saturation patrols during the month of February.

- DUI/Driver's License checkpoint is set for Saturday, February 12, 2011, from 9:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m.
- Roving DUI saturation patrols will be deployed on February 14, 2011, and February 19, 2011, between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 2 a.m.

Statewide, overall traffic deaths declined by 23%, from 3,995 in 2007 to 3,081 in 2009. Total traffic fatalities are at their lowest levels in six decades. Deaths attributed to impaired drivers declined by 16%, from 1,132 in 2007 to 950 in 2009.

Alcohol-impaired deaths still made up the largest category of overall vehicle fatalities in 2009, with 31% of all deaths caused by a drunk driver. A DUI checkpoint is a method proven effective to lower these numbers. Additionally, drivers will be checked to ensure they have a valid driver's license.

These enforcement efforts are funded by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Remember, everyone is encouraged to help keep our roadways safe. To report drunk drivers, call 9-1-1.

The San Diego Police Department reminds everyone they can assist in preventing this crime from ever occurring. When planning a gathering or celebration with alcohol included, or if out on the town, plan ahead and designate a non-drinking, sober driver. A DUI arrest costs in excess of \$10,000, including time spent in jail, the loss of your driving privilege and increased insurance rates.

MEDIA NOTES: To schedule an interview regarding San Diego Traffic Safety Operations, please contact Mark McCullough at (619) 818-4860 or via email at mmccullough@pd.sandiego.gov. To schedule an interview regarding impaired driving efforts and programs in California, please contact Chris Cochran, California Office of Traffic Safety at (916) 509-3063 or via email at ccoehran@ots.ca.gov.

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