



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 29, 2012

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DUI Checkpoint Planned for This Weekend

San Diego, CA – The San Diego Police Department Traffic Unit will be conducting a DUI/Driver’s License Checkpoint on Saturday, March 31, 2012, at an undisclosed location within the city limits between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 3:30 a.m. DUI checkpoints are an enforcement tool proven effective in reducing the number of persons killed and injured in alcohol-related crashes. Research shows that crashes involving alcohol drop by an average of 20% when well-publicized checkpoints are conducted regularly.

Officers will be contacting drivers passing through the checkpoint for signs of alcohol and/or drug impairment. Those caught driving while impaired can expect jail, license suspension, and insurance increases, as well as fines, fees, DUI classes, other expenses that can exceed \$10,000.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), checkpoints have provided the most effective documented results of any of the DUI enforcement strategies, while also yielding considerable cost savings of \$6 for every \$1 spent. Checkpoints are placed in locations that have the greatest opportunity for achieving drunk and drugged driving deterrence and provide the greatest safety for officers and the public.

“Deaths from drunk and drug-impaired driving are going down in California,” said Christopher J. Murphy, Director of the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS). “But that still means that hundreds of our friends, family and co-workers are killed each year, along with tens of thousands who are seriously injured. We must all continue to work together to bring an end to these tragedies. If you see a Drunk Driver – Call 9-1-1.”

Funding for this checkpoint is provided to the San Diego Police Department by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, targeting those who still don’t heed the message to designate a sober driver.

MEDIA NOTES: To schedule an interview regarding San Diego Traffic Safety Operations, contact Mark McCullough at (619) 818-4860 or via email at mmccullough@pd.sandiego.gov. The location of this checkpoint will be made available to the media two hours prior to the start of the checkpoint by contacting Officer Mark McCullough. 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 chris.cochran@ots.ca.gov.

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