



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **Pacific Beach DUI Checkpoint Nets Nine DUI Arrests**

On February 1, 2013 the San Diego Police Department conducted a DUI checkpoint in the 2400 block of Grand Avenue in Pacific Beach. The checkpoint was made possible by a California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) "DUI Mini Grant."

The checkpoint was operational from 10:50 p.m., until 3:00 a.m. 914 vehicles passed through the checkpoint. 689 of those vehicles were screened by officers. 24 motorists were detained for a further evaluation of their sobriety. Nine arrests were made for DUI in or near the checkpoint, and ten vehicle impounds were conducted. Tire deflation devices were utilized on two vehicles that failed to stop for officers at the checkpoint. Each driver was subsequently arrested for DUI, with one of them being on DUI probation with two prior DUI convictions.

"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.

Officer McCullough recommends these simple tips:

- Plan a safe way home before the festivities begin;
- Before drinking, designate a sober driver and leave your car keys at home;
- If you're impaired, use a taxi, call a sober friend or family member, or use public transportation;
- If you happen to see a drunk driver on the road, don't hesitate to contact your local law enforcement - Call 911; and
- remember, "RUOK?" is a ridiculous question. If you think they've had too much to drink, they probably have. Help him or her make other arrangements to get home safely.



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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.

For statewide and local Avoid DUI Task Force Campaign Enforcement Schedules for the county and Daily DUI Arrest/Fatal Stats for the county and region, visit [www.californiaavoid.org](http://www.californiaavoid.org). The Program is funded by the California Office of Traffic Safety which reminds everyone to please – Report Drunk Drivers – Call 9-1-1!

**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 Officer Mark McCullough at (619) 818-4860 or via email at [mmccullough@pd.sandiego.gov](mailto:mmccullough@pd.sandiego.gov).

