



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **DUI Checkpoint and Patrols Planned for Fat Tuesday**

**San Diego, CA** – The San Diego Police Department Traffic Unit will be conducting a DUI/Driver License Checkpoint on Tuesday, February 12, 2013 as well as DUI saturation patrols. These details will be conducted at undisclosed locations within the city limits between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 4:30 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 looking 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.

In 2011, nearly 10,000 people were killed nationwide in motor vehicle traffic crashes that involved at least one driver or motorcycle rider with a blood alcohol concentration of .08% or higher. In California, this deadly crime led to 774 deaths because someone failed to designate a sober driver. “Over the course of the past three years, DUI collisions have claimed 40 lives and resulted in 2444 injury crashes, harming 2478 of our friends and neighbors,” said Officer McCullough.

“DUI Checkpoints have been an essential part of the phenomenal reduction in DUI deaths that we witnessed since 2006 in California,” said Christopher J. Murphy, Director of the Office of Traffic Safety. “But since the tragedy of DUI accounts for nearly one third of traffic fatalities, San Diego needs the high visibility enforcement and public awareness that checkpoints provide.”

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, reminding everyone to continue to work together to bring an end to these tragedies.

If you see a drunk driver, call 9-1-1.

**MEDIA NOTES:** To schedule an interview regarding the San Diego Police Traffic Safety Operations, please contact Mark McCullough at (619) 818-4860 or via email at [mmccullough@pd.sandiego.gov](mailto:mmccullough@pd.sandiego.gov)

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