



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

03/18/2013

CONTACT:

Officer Mark McCullough
(619) 818-4860
mmccullough@pd.sandiego.gov

East Village DUI Checkpoint Nets 16 DUI Arrests

On March 17, 2013 the San Diego Police Department and the California Highway Patrol conducted a DUI checkpoint in the 1400 block of G Street, in Downtown's East Village. The checkpoint was made possible by a California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) "DUI Mini Grant."

The checkpoint was operational from 11:00 p.m., until 3:00 a.m. 936 vehicles passed through the checkpoint, with 663 of those vehicles being screened by officers. Of those, 38 motorists were detained for a further evaluation of their sobriety. 16 arrests were made for DUI in or near the checkpoint, and 16 vehicle impounds were conducted. One arrestee had her 15 month old infant in the car and was also charged with child endangerment. Tire deflation devices were used on two drivers that refused to stop for officers. Both drivers were arrested for DUI, with one of them being charged with felony DUI because his most recent DUI was a felony.

"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.



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

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. 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.

