THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

PRESS RELEASE

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Downtown DUI Checkpoint Nets 18 DUI Arrests

On March 17, 2015, the San Diego Police Department conducted a DUI checkpoint Downtown, in the 1400 block of G Street. The checkpoint was made possible by a California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) "DUI Grant."

The checkpoint was operational from 11:00 pm until 3:00 am. 1289 vehicles passed through the checkpoint with 817 of those motorists being screened by officers. 26 motorists were detained for a further evaluation of their sobriety. 17 arrests were made for DUI in or near the checkpoint and 19 vehicles were impounded.

"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.

The San Diego Police Department 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;
- Report drunk drivers - 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 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.

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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 Sergeant Ernesto Servin at 858 495-7825 email **eservin@sd.pd.sandiego.gov** or Officer Mark McCullough at (619) 818-4860 or via email at **mmccullough@pd.sandiego.gov**.