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Media Release

Don't Count on the Luck of the Irish to Bail You Out of Jail

Designate a Sober Driver Before Hitting the Town or Police Will Find One for You

NEVADA – Pulling green bills from your pockets to bail out of jail isn't nearly as entertaining as pouring green beer in your mug. Don't let your St. Patrick's Day festivities turn grim with a driving under the influence (DUI) arrest.

Law enforcement officers across the state will be aggressively pursuing intoxicated motorists and motorcycle riders during the holiday.

The Nevada Department of Public Safety's Office of Traffic safety reminds everyone that it is critical to develop a safe transportation plan before leaving the house to party this St. Patrick's Day.

Here's why:

- Nationally, someone dies every 51 minutes in a drunk-driving crash.
- Nearly 30 percent of fatal crashes in Nevada involve alcohol.

St. Patrick's Day is one of the more dangerous holidays when it comes to drunk driving; between 2006 and 2010, two in five deadly crashes involved an impaired driver.

The cost of a DUI is at least \$10,000 when attorneys' fees and associated court costs are considered. No pot of gold will cover those costs or help impaired motorists pay the price if they seriously injure themselves or others.

Law enforcement officers said some of the behaviors that tip them off to drunk drivers include drifting during a turn or a curve, inattentiveness to surroundings, inappropriate or unusual behavior and weaving. For additional information, visit <http://www.zerofatalitiesnv.com/sober>.

The Nevada Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) provides funding and expertise, creates partnerships and promotes education to reduce traffic deaths and injuries on Nevada roadways.

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