



Nevada Highway Patrol

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Media Release

Enforcement Agencies Work to Eliminate Impaired Driving and Riding Fatalities As Holiday Months Approach

Local Law Enforcement Strives for Zero Fatalities in Efforts to Keep Nevada Roadways Safe

Las Vegas, NV – Fatalities due to impaired driving and riding continue to be a top traffic issue on Nevada’s roadways and with overall fatalities at an increase in comparison to this time last year, The Nevada Highway Patrol is working in conjunction with other agencies aligned with *Joining Forces* to boost enforcement efforts.

Impaired driving fatalities have consistently been the most common cause of motor vehicle accidents resulting in injuries and death in Nevada. While alcohol related crashes and fatalities have decreased 48-percent compared to this time last year, there has still been an increase in overall fatalities to date. With the summer months, a period known as the “hundred deadliest days,” in rear view, enforcement officials are reminding motorists to make responsible decisions, when taking to the roadways during these holiday months.

What seems like a small buzz can have deadly consequences when taking to the roadways. Illegal drugs, prescription drugs, over-the-counter medicines and lack of sleep can also impair your ability to drive safely. Law enforcement wants to remind motorists to always drive and ride sober or use a designated driver to reach your destinations safely.

“We are not saying you can’t enjoy the holidays. We are asking everyone to just make it a smart celebration. If you are drinking, even just one, have a sober ride available. If hosting the celebrations, have a plan in place to get everyone home safe. Holidays are meant for happiness not sorrows” says Trooper Loy Hixson of the Nevada Highway Patrol.

In efforts to achieve the “Zero Fatalities” goal, drivers and riders are encouraged to know the law for blood alcohol levels and to abide by the following guidelines:

- designate a sober driver before drinking;
- use a taxi, call a sober friend or family member or use public transportation if impaired;
- take advantage of local sober ride programs;
- call 911 if a drunk driver is spotted on the road;
- take the keys or assist in making other arrangements for someone who is about to drive or ride while impaired

For more information on *Joining Forces* and other statewide traffic safety programs, please visit <http://www.zerofatalitiesnv.com>.

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