



NEWS RELEASE



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June 28, 2013

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***Woodridge Police Department* begins July 4th crackdown on drunk drivers and belt law violators**

(Woodridge, IL) – Woodridge Police Department today announced its plans for July 4th traffic enforcement, focusing on both drunk and unbuckled drivers. The intensified enforcement effort will focus on late-night hours as statistics show a disproportionate number of traffic deaths occur late at night and involve a drunk driver and/or unbuckled motorist. The crackdown is part of the statewide, Independence Day *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* and *Click It or Ticket* effort.

“Year in and year out, Independence Day is one of the deadliest holidays due to an increase in drunk-driving fatalities,” said Sergeant Bill Hoogland. “Too many people die each year due to those who choose to drive after drinking, so our officers will be out in full force this Fourth of July showing zero tolerance for drunk drivers and belt law violators.”

Woodridge Police Department will join the Illinois State Police and hundreds of police and sheriff’s departments in a statewide enforcement effort that begins June 28 and runs through July 7th.

To avoid a potential crash or drunk driving arrest, the **Woodridge Police Department** recommends designating a sober driver and not letting friends or family members drive drunk. Other important tips include:

- Plan ahead. Designate a sober driver before going out and give that person your keys;
- If you are drunk, call a taxi, use mass transit or call a sober friend or family member to get you home safely;
- Promptly report drunk drivers you see on the roadways to law enforcement by pulling over and dialing 911;
- Make sure everyone in your vehicle wears their seat belt. It is your best defense against a drunk driver.

The law enforcement crackdown is funded by federal traffic safety funds through IDOT’s Division of Traffic Safety. The crackdown runs concurrently with a media campaign that reminds motorists, “**Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over**” and “**Click It or Ticket**”.

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