



VALLEJO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Press Release

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December 20, 2007 (1:27 PM)
Lieutenant Reginald Garcia

On December 20, 2007, members of the Vallejo Police department, Solano Sheriff's department, and parole officers from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation conducted a warrant sweep program focused upon arresting individuals who had outstanding arrest warrants for drunk driving. A total of 35 residences and businesses were visited by the task force. While only two arrests were made, the program serves notice that Vallejo Police and Solano Sheriff's will actively pursue those drunk driving violators who miss their court date by coming to their homes and places of employment to serve the arrest warrants.

This program was conducted to impact the number of drunk drivers on the road and to bring awareness to the number of fatalities associated with drunk driving during the holiday periods of Christmas and New Years. A recent study released by the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) reported that on average, from 2001 to 2005 (the last year for which complete data is available) 40 percent of all fatalities during the Christmas and New year holiday period have occurred where at least one of the involved drivers was alcohol-impaired as compared top 28 percent of the all fatalities during the rest of December.

The study showed that there were 33 fatalities during the other days in December, but the number jumped to 45 fatalities per day on Christmas holiday period and 54 fatalities on New Years holiday period. This year, both Christmas and New years fall on Tuesdays and both holiday periods are considered four day holiday periods for reporting purposes.

The Vallejo Police Department and Solano Sheriff's Department hope that this warrant sweep will keep serve notice that Solano County law enforcement is keeping the anti drunk driving effort a priority this holiday season.

For more information, you can read the entire report at
www.nhtsa.dot.gov/portal/site/nhtsa/menuitem