



VALLEJO POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Date: December 17, 2009

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Vallejo Police Department Partners in Special Holiday DUI Crackdown

Vallejo PD Joins Effort to Deploy Two of 300 Sobriety Checkpoint over the Holidays

Vallejo, California — The holiday season is upon us. Plans are in place for parties, shopping and traveling to friends and family. However, each year motorists will be in harm's way thanks to the careless ones who will drink and drive this season.

Beginning December 18th, Vallejo Police Department will join law enforcement across the state as part of California's 18 Day Holiday DUI Crackdown Campaign with law enforcement agencies deploying 300 DUI/Drivers License Checkpoints statewide. Funding for the special enforcement campaign, December 16, 2009 through January 3, 2010 comes from a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Vallejo PD will be conducting DUI/Drivers License Checkpoints on December 18th and 23rd, 2009. In addition to this Vallejo PD will also be conducting increased DUI enforcement through the use of Saturation Patrols.

Lt. Salinas said the Vallejo Police Department takes DUI enforcement seriously. We want to make the streets safe for all motorists during this holiday period. If you drink during the holiday period don't drive. If you must drive, use a designated driver.

In 2008, 11,773 people died in highway crashes involving a driver or motorcycle rider with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher. In California 1,029 were killed on state and local roads driving with a .08 BAC or higher with another 28,457 injured in Alcohol Involved Collisions.

"Drunk driving is simply not worth the risk. Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for impaired driving can be

significant,” said Christopher J. Murphy, Director of the California Office of Traffic Safety. “Violators often face jail time, the loss of their driver’s license, higher insurance rates, attorney fees, time away from work, and dozens of other expenses. So don’t take the chance. Remember, if you are over the limit, you are under arrest.”

Law enforcement encourages everyone planning a family gathering over the holidays to first think about how your friends and family will get home after drinking during holiday celebrations. Everyone is encouraged to “Report Drunk Drivers – Call 911” and be ready to describe the vehicle, its location and direction of travel to make your community safer into the New Year. With everyone’s help, families won’t remember the holidays of 2009 as a time of loss at the hands of another drunk driver.