



VALLEJO POLICE DEPARTMENT



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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CONTACT:

Lt. Joel Salinas

707-649-3407

**The Vallejo Police Department Partners in National DUI Campaign
'Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest' Crackdown**

DUI/Drivers License Checkpoint Planned in Vallejo this Week

Vallejo, CA - The Vallejo Police Department announced its officers will be conducting a DUI/Drivers License Checkpoint; partnering with thousands of other law enforcement efforts which began August 21st throughout the county. The message this end of summer season is that drunk driving won't be tolerated. If you drive drunk, we will be looking for you. If you're over the limit **and we catch you**, you will be arrested.

Drunk driving is one of America's deadliest crimes and Vallejo PD will be conducting a DUI/Drivers License Checkpoint on Thursday, September 3, 2009, targeting those who still don't heed the message to designate a sober driver before their first drink is taken. Funding for the Checkpoint is through a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

"Statewide, DUI deaths fell 9 percent to 1,029 in 2008. Credit for the drop in DUI deaths goes to law enforcement, state and local agencies, Mothers Against Drunk Driving and other safety advocates," said Christopher Murphy, Director of the California Office of Traffic Safety. "In addition, the people of California have come together to address this deadly problem and are now seeing results. As positive as these figures are, though, we can never let up until we achieve our goal of zero deaths."

"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 Chief Robert Nichelini. "Violators will 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 caught over the limit, you will be placed under arrest."

"Law enforcement everywhere is asking for the community's help; if you see a Drunk Driver – Call 9-1-1," said Chief Nichelini. "In addition to this checkpoint I've asked everyone in my department to focus additional efforts toward removing an impaired driver during the campaign period and everyday they are on patrol."

For more information, visit www.StopImpairedDriving.org and www.californiaavoid.org.

Media Notes: To schedule an interview regarding Anti Drunk-Driving efforts, or request a ride-along with law enforcement during the holiday period, please contact Lt. Joel Salinas at 707-649-3407 or e-mail at jsalinas@ci.vallejo.ca.us.