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P R E S S R E L E A S E

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DATE: December 15, 2015

Drunk Driving Ruins the Holidays ***Police Aim to Save Lives With ‘Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over’***

Fountain Valley, CA— The Fountain Valley Police Department Traffic Bureau will be conducting a DUI/Driver’s License Checkpoint on Friday, December 18th, 2015 at an undisclosed location within the city limits between the hours of 9:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m.

If you’re enjoying the holidays with a drink, The Fountain Valley Police Department has a message for you: *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*. Due to the increase in drunk-driving-related fatalities around the holidays each year, law enforcement agencies across America will be actively searching for and arresting drunk drivers from December 16 to January 1. They have good reason to: in 2013, 10,076 people were killed in crashes involving a drunk driver. In December 2013 alone there were 733 people killed in crashes involving at least one driver or motorcycle operator with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher. 23 of those deaths occurred on Christmas Day.

The safest way to get home is to drive sober or catch a ride with a sober designated driver. If you plan on drinking at the holiday party or at a restaurant, hand the keys over to someone else – a sober friend, a taxi or public transportation. Or, try NHTSA’s SaferRide mobile app, which allows users to call a taxi or a friend by identifying their location so they can be picked up. The app is available at <http://ow.ly/RWs3S> for Android and <http://ow.ly/RWs8h> for iPhone users.

As part of the national *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* enforcement campaign period, police will be increasing the number of patrols, setting up roadblocks, and using local media to reach out to all drivers. If you’re drinking and driving, Fountain Valley police will stop you. If you’re caught drinking and driving you could face jail time, fines, loss of driver’s license, towing fees, and other DUI expenses, totaling \$10,000 on average. That’s not a small price, and that doesn’t even count the heftier price you could pay: the price of your life or someone else’s.

Some people think that if they get pulled over for driving drunk, they can just refuse a breath test to avoid the DUI charge. Not true. In most jurisdictions, refusing a breath test means an automatic arrest, and the loss of your driver’s license on the spot. The only way to truly avoid a DUI is to drive sober or designate a sober driver ahead of time. There are other options, such as calling a friend, family member, using public

transportation, or calling a taxi. The cost of cab fare is nothing compared to a \$10,000 DUI or the cost of someone's life, and the 'inconvenience' of not driving your own car home is nothing compared to the inconvenience of spending the holidays behind bars.

In addition the Fountain Valley Police Department reminds all drivers to drive sober, and be alert. If you see a drunk driver on the road, call the police right away. If someone you know is about to drive after drinking, take their keys and help them get home safely

Fountain Valley drivers, please follow these tips to keep the holidays safe and happy:

- Even one drink can impair your judgment and increase the risk of getting arrested for driving drunk—or worse, the risk of having a crash.
- If you will be drinking, do not plan on driving. Plan ahead; designate a sober driver before the party begins.
- If you have been drinking, do not drive. Call a taxi, phone a sober friend or family member, or use public transportation.

Remember, driving after drinking should never be an option. *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.*

For more information, visit www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov.