



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Howard County police to conduct sobriety checkpoint

The Howard County Police Department will conduct a sobriety checkpoint at an undisclosed location this week to promote awareness and reduce the number of alcohol-impaired drivers on the roads.

The checkpoint will be clearly marked with signs, lights and uniformed officers. Officers will be checking for violations including driving under the influence of alcohol, failure to use seat belts and failure to use child safety seats.

The department conducts several checkpoints throughout the year, in addition to utilizing special enforcement details specifically targeting drunken and drugged drivers. Last year in Howard County, alcohol was a factor in eight fatal collisions, and 1,296 people were arrested for driving under the influence or driving while intoxicated.

This holiday season, police will be aggressively enforcing traffic laws with attention to impaired driving, speeding and violations of seat belt and child safety seat laws. To combat holiday drinking and driving, police will be conducting numerous DUI saturation patrols throughout the next month. Police will also be paying special attention to underage drinking, which increases during the holidays when students are on winter break.

By promoting awareness about the dangers of drinking and driving, police hope to reduce the number of drivers under the influence and related collisions and injuries. Police remind citizens to always designate a sober driver or refrain from drinking alcohol if they will be driving. If you see a drunk driver on the road, please call 911.

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