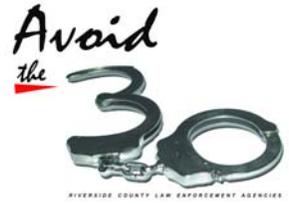




Avoid the 30 Riverside County



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Saturday, July 5, 2008

CONTACT:

Karen Haverkamp khaver@riversideca.gov
Traffic Bureau Administrative Supervisor
Riverside Police Department - 951-353-7980

JULY 4TH WEEKEND AVOID CAMPAIGN – UPDATE

DUI Arrests UP & DUI Fatalities Down

The July 4th Weekend DUI crackdown on drinking drivers is to the half way mark and has resulted in a number of DUI arrests from Special Saturation Patrols and routine patrol in the Riverside County "AVOID" DUI Campaign overnight.

From 12:01 a.m., Thursday, July 3, 2008, through Midnight, Friday, July 4, 2008, officers representing 30 county law enforcement agencies have arrested **28** individuals for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs and 1 fatal traffic collision has been reported in the Indio area. (**NOTE: These numbers are only provisional with many agencies yet to report**)

DUI arrest data collection will continue through midnight Sunday, July 6, 2008. Law enforcement officials will be conducting more anti-DUI efforts throughout the county. Additionally, all CHP Areas throughout the state have 80% of all available officers patrolling freeways and county roads throughout the weekend.

Saturday, July 5th, a DUI Checkpoint is scheduled in Perris.

Saturday, July 5th, and Sunday, July 6th, DUI Saturation Patrols will be deployed in the cities across Riverside County.

MEDIA NOTE: Please visit the AVOID website at www.californiaavoid.org and the Riverside County AVOID website at www.avoidthe30.org for more information or contact your local police for ride-alongs. Statistical data on the number of DUI arrests and DUI fatal crashes will be released from the previous day's activities. The checkpoint locations and saturation patrols will be available for media opportunities or ride-alongs each night.

The goal of this program is to warn people of the dangers and consequences of driving while impaired. Every 39 minutes and nearly 40 times a day, someone in the United States dies in an impaired driving-related crash according to research by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. That is why Avoid the 30 along with other highway safety, community health and law enforcement officials are reminding everyone this Fourth of July that *Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving* and to designate a sober driver before the celebrations begin.

**Police, Sheriff and the CHP encourage all motorists to help make your community safer:
Report Drunk Drivers – Call 9-1-1.**

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

###

