



# ***PRESS RELEASE***

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Thursday, July 17, 2008

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## **Riverside Police Department Targets Impaired Drivers with Checkpoint**

The Riverside Police Department will be conducting a DUI/Drivers License checkpoint on Friday, July 18, 2008, from 6 p.m. to 12 midnight, in an effort to reduce the number of persons killed and injured in alcohol involved crashes. DUI checkpoints are conducted to identify offenders and get them off the street, as well as educate the public on the dangers of impaired driving.

This year, the City of Riverside has experienced three fatalities as a result of DUI driving; there were six in 2007. This DUI/Drivers License checkpoint is an effort to reduce those tragedies as well as ensuring drivers have a valid driver's license.

A DUI checkpoint is a visible and effective method for raising awareness and reducing the incidence of drinking drivers. By publicizing these enforcement and education efforts, the Riverside Police Department believes motorists can be deterred from drinking and driving and encourage sober designated drivers.

Traffic volume and weather permitting, all vehicles at the chosen location may be checked. Drivers who are under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs will be arrested. Our objective is to send a clear message to those who are considering driving a motor vehicle after consuming alcohol and/or drugs – *Drunk Driving, Over the Limit, Under Arrest.*

The public is encouraged to help keep roadways safe by calling 911 if they see a suspected impaired driver.

**MEDIA NOTE:** *Reporters are invited to ride along with law enforcement or may join checkpoint operations in your region throughout the weekend by contacting Karen Haverkamp, Riverside Police Traffic Division, at (951) 353-7991 or via email at [sshowalter@riversideca.gov](mailto:sshowalter@riversideca.gov).*

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