

April 29, 2021
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Ventura Police Holding a DUI Checkpoint on Friday, May 7, 2021

Ventura, Calif. — The Ventura Police Department Traffic Unit will conduct a DUI checkpoint at an undisclosed location within the city limits on Friday, May 7, 2021, from 7:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.

DUI checkpoint locations are chosen based on a history of DUI collision statistics and arrests. The primary purpose of checkpoints is not to make arrests, but to promote public safety by deterring residents from driving impaired. During the checkpoint, officers will look for signs that drivers are under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

“The safety of our community is and always will be our mission,” said Al Gomez, a Corporal with the Ventura Police Traffic Unit. “We are looking for impaired drivers because driving under the influence is dangerous and puts others on the road at risk.”

The Ventura Police Department reminds the public that impaired driving is not just caused by alcohol. Some prescription medications or over-the-counter drugs may interfere with driving. Always follow directions for use and read warning labels about driving or “operating heavy machinery,” which includes driving a car. While medicinal and recreational marijuana are legal, driving under the influence of marijuana is not. Marijuana can be impairing, especially when combined with alcohol or other drugs, which can also result in a DUI.

If you plan on drinking or taking medications that may impact your ability to drive safely, plan on staying safe at home. If you see a drunk driver, always call 9-1-1.

Drivers charged with DUI face an average of \$13,500 in fines and penalties, as well as a suspended license.

Funding for this checkpoint was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. To learn more about the Office of Traffic Safety grant and VPD’s educational efforts, contact Emily Graves, Community Outreach Specialist for the Ventura Police Department, at egraves@cityofventura.ca.gov.

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