



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Ventura Police Department Encourage Residents to be Responsible and Drive Sober *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*

Ventura, Calif. — During this time of busy summer travel, the Ventura Police Department asks drivers to find a safe ride home, especially after drinking to using drugs that impact driving abilities.

On Friday, August 20, 2021, from 7:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., the Ventura Police Department Traffic Unit will conduct a DUI checkpoint at an undisclosed location within city limits. Furthermore, additional officers will be on patrol from August 20, 2021, through September 6, 2021, looking for drivers suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

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.

“Labor Day Weekend remains one of the most dangerous times of year for alcohol-involved traffic collisions,” said Traffic Unit Sergeant, Michael Brown. “We urge everyone to be as safe as possible, especially while on the road.”

Whether it is alcohol, prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications, or marijuana, driving while impaired is illegal.

If you plan on drinking or taking medications that may impact your ability to drive safely, do not get behind the wheel; plan on staying home.

Drivers caught driving impaired and charged with a first-time DUI face an average of \$13,500 in fines and penalties, as well as a suspended license.

Funding for this checkpoint and enhanced DUI enforcement is 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, visit ots.ca.gov or contact Emily Graves, Community Outreach Specialist with the Ventura Police Department, at egraves@cityofventura.ca.gov.

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