



NEWS RELEASE

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Ventura PD urges drivers to “Go Safely” during the final days of summer

Ventura, Calif. — As the summer travel season wraps up, the Ventura Police Department reminds drivers to stay safe and be responsible by never driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

“Ventura’s well-being is our top priority,” said Corporal David Curtis. “There is never a good excuse for driving after drinking or using drugs that impair. Please always have a game plan for getting home safely.”

The Ventura Police Department asks residents to take the necessary precautions to protect themselves and their families by buckling up, avoiding distractions behind the wheel, following the speed limit, and not driving impaired.

To help keep Ventura safe, the Ventura Police Department will have additional officers on patrol Tuesday, August 16 through Monday, September 4, 2023, looking for drivers suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs. The additional efforts to prevent impaired driving are part of a national enforcement campaign, *Driver Sober or Get Pulled Over*.

In addition to additional patrols, the Ventura Police Department will hold a DUI Checkpoint on Friday, September 8, 2023, at an undisclosed location within the City of Ventura.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 13,384 people were killed in drunk-driving crashes in 2021 — that’s one person every 39 minutes.

While drunk driving is a significant traffic safety problem, driving while impaired is not just from alcohol. Prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications and cannabis products may also impair. If you plan on drinking or taking medications with a driving warning label, let someone who is sober drive. If you see someone driving impaired, call 9-1-1.

Share your thoughts about impaired driving by participating in the Go Safely Movement, a call-to-action traffic safety survey from the California Office of Traffic Safety. Take the survey at gosafelyca.org.

Funding for this program 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, contact Emily Graves, Community Outreach Specialist for the Ventura Police Department, at egraves@cityofventura.ca.gov.

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Update with Results

Ventura, Calif.- While conducting a DUI and DL checkpoint on September 08, 2023, the Ventura Police Department did not have any DUI related arrest.

The checkpoint was held on Main st and Callens Rd from 2100 hours and concluded at 0130 hours. The following is a list of the enforcement activities that took place at, or as a result of the checkpoint:

907 cars passed through the checkpoint
507 drivers were contacted and screened through the checkpoint
17 FST's were conducted
10 drivers cited for VC12500(a), Unlicensed Driver
4 drivers cited for VC14601.1(a), Suspended Driver

Checkpoint locations are based on a history of crashes and DUI arrests. The primary purpose of checkpoints is not to make arrests, but to promote public safety by deterring drivers from driving impaired.

The Ventura Police Department is committed to keeping the public safe when they are traveling.

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

