

## UPDATE - DUI/Drivers License Checkpoint Planned this Weekend



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**Incident:** UPDATE - DUI/Drivers License Checkpoint Planned this Weekend

**Contact:** Sgt. Darrick Brunk, (805) 339-4323, [dbrunk@venturapd.org](mailto:dbrunk@venturapd.org)

**Location:** City of Ventura

**Date/Time Occurred:** January 21, 2015

**Officer(s) Involved:** VPD Motor Officers

**Narrative:**

UPDATE –

The Ventura Police Department conducted a DUI checkpoint eastbound Thompson Blvd. west of California St. This checkpoint took place from approximately 2100 hours until 0230 hours.

As a result of this checkpoint, the following enforcement actions were taken:

1 motorist was arrested for Driving While Impaired (DUI) the driver provided a breath sample, which resulted in a .14 blood alcohol content. This motorist was cited and released for 23136 (a) CVC, It is unlawful for a person under the age of 21 years who has a blood-alcohol concentration of 0.01 percent or greater to drive a motor vehicle. Additionally, the vehicle was towed incident to arrest.

1 motorist was cited for 12500 (a) CVC, driving with out a license.

1 subject was arrested for a misdemeanor warrant related to a prior DUI arrest.

1 subject was cited for Possession of Marijuana in a motor vehicle.

1 subject was cited for Possession of an Open container of an alcoholic beverage.

Furthermore, an officer working a DUI Saturation patrol attempted to stop a motor vehicle for a traffic infraction. The driver failed to stop and the officer went into pursuit of the vehicle. After the vehicle pursuit, the suspect exited his vehicle and fled on foot. The officer was able to exit his vehicle and go in foot pursuit. After a short foot chase the officer was able to apprehend the suspect at which time the suspect resisted arrest and an altercation occurred. The suspect was identified as, a 23 year old male, Fernando Suarez who is an Oxnard resident. Suarez was arrested and booked for felony resisting arrest.

### ORIGINAL NARRATIVE FOLLOWS

Ventura, CA – Ventura Police Department Traffic Unit will be conducting a DUI/Drivers License Checkpoint this Friday, January 23, 2015 at an undisclosed location within the city limits between the hours of 8:00 p.m to 3:00 a.m.

The deterrent effect of DUI checkpoints is a proven resource in reducing the number of persons killed and injured in alcohol or drug involved crashes. Research shows that crashes involving an impaired driver can be reduced by up to 20 percent when well-publicized DUI checkpoints and proactive DUI patrols are conducted routinely.

In California, this deadly crime led to 802 deaths in 2012 because someone failed to designate a sober driver. Nationally, the latest data shows nearly 10,000 were killed by an impaired driver. "Over the course of the past three years, DUI collisions have claimed 6 lives and resulted in 71 injury crashes harming 94 of our friends and neighbors," said Sgt. Darrick Brunk.

Officers will be looking for signs of alcohol and/or drug impairment with officers checking drivers for proper licensing delaying motorists only momentarily. When possible, specially trained officers will be available to evaluate those suspected of drug-impaired driving. Recent statistics reveal that 30 percent of drivers in fatal crashes had one or more drugs in their systems. A study of active drivers showed more tested positive for drugs that may impair driving (14 percent) than did for alcohol (7.3 percent). Of the drugs, marijuana was most prevalent, at 7.4 percent, slightly more than alcohol.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), checkpoints have provided the most effective documented results of any of the DUI enforcement strategies, while also yielding considerable cost savings of \$6 for every \$1 spent. Nearly 90 percent of California drivers approve of DUI checkpoints.

DUI Checkpoints are placed in locations based on collision statistics and frequency of DUI arrests affording the greatest opportunity for achieving drunk and drugged driving deterrence. Locations are chosen with safety considerations for the officers and the public.

Drivers caught driving impaired can expect the impact of a DUI arrest to include jail time, fines, fees, DUI classes, other expenses that can exceed \$10,000 not to mention the embarrassment when friends and family find out.

Funding for this checkpoint is provided to Ventura Police Department by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, reminding everyone to 'Report Drunk Driver – Call 9-1-1'.