



# Avoid the 30 Riverside County PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND AVOID CAMPAIGN – FINAL REPORT

### *DUI Arrests Down Slightly*

The Memorial Day Weekend Avoid the 30 DUI Campaign has concluded with the deployment of two sobriety checkpoints and eighteen special DUI saturation patrols. In addition, officers on routine patrol focused special attention towards the impaired driver working to lower deaths/injuries on our streets and highways.

From 12:01 AM, Friday, May 24, 2013, through midnight, Monday, May 27, 2013, officers representing 30 Riverside County law enforcement agencies arrested 202 individuals for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. In 2012, 230 DUI arrests occurred during the same holiday weekend. Although there have been no impaired driving deaths reported, a major injury collision did occur on Sunday, May 26, in Menifee. A single vehicle drifted off the roadway and became impaled on a metal guardrail. The guardrail struck and injured the 21-year old female passenger. She has been hospitalized in critical condition. The 21-year old male driver received minor injuries. Alcohol and drugs are considered a factor in this collision. Last year, there were no impaired driving deaths reported.

(\*\*NOTE: These numbers are only provisional with many agencies yet to report\*\*)

These numbers are in comparison to last years' totals during the same 4 days of the Memorial Day weekend 2012. Law enforcement officials will be conducting more Avoid anti-DUI efforts throughout the county and region during the Independence Day holiday period and the 18-day campaign in August ending Labor Day weekend.

Police, Sheriff and the CHP encourage all motorists to watch for and report impaired drivers during each and every trip around town or during summer vacations: Report Drunk Drivers – Call 9-1-1! anytime you encounter a dangerous driver. Funding for Avoid the 30 operations is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

**MEDIA NOTE:** Avoid programs, named for the number of police agencies in each county, will be conducting other enforcement efforts during special events with identified DUI problems. In addition, in recognition that the summer season is among the deadliest time of the year, law enforcement agencies throughout Riverside County will also concentrate crackdowns on the Independence Day holiday period as well as during the 18-day August/Labor Day period. In recognition that summer season is among the deadliest time of the year, law enforcement agencies throughout the county will be making every effort to arrest drunk drivers before another life is lost.



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