



Avoid the 30 Riverside County PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUMMER/LABOR DAY AVOID DUI CAMPAIGN – UPDATE

DUI Arrests Down & DUI Fatalities Remain Unchanged From 2012

The nationwide Summer/Labor Day DUI crackdown has resulted in a significant number of DUI arrests from local routine traffic enforcement and special Avoid the 30 DUI deployments in Riverside County.

From 12:01 AM, Friday, August 16, 2013, through midnight, Wednesday, August 28, 2013, officers representing thirty Riverside County law enforcement agencies arrested **478** individuals for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. In 2012, 498 DUI arrests occurred during the same thirteen (13) day period.

Tragically, there have been three deaths attributed to impaired drivers in our area. On August 18th, two persons were killed and five were injured on Gilman Springs Road when a vehicle crossed over into oncoming traffic. The drivers of both vehicles are suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. On August 24th, the driver of a truck veered into oncoming traffic and struck another vehicle. The driver of the truck has been identified as Fermin Zuniga, age 48. Alcohol is believed to be a factor in this collision. Last year, there were three DUI deaths reported during this same period. (**NOTE: These numbers are only provisional with some agencies yet to report**)

Over the final weekend of this campaign, DUI/driver's license checkpoints will be conducted in the cities of Beaumont, La Quinta, Lake Elsinore, Moreno Valley and Riverside. CHP-Riverside will also be conducting a checkpoint at an undisclosed location. Task force operations will be conducted by CHP-Riverside, Blythe, Coachella, Indio and La Quinta. DUI saturation patrols will be deployed in the cities of Banning, Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, Eastvale, Hemet, La Quinta, Lake Perris, Mount San Jacinto, Murrieta, Palm Springs, Riverside and Temecula. Specialized traffic enforcement operations are planned in the cities of Hemet, Moreno Valley and Riverside. In addition, all regularly scheduled traffic and patrol officers will focus efforts at stopping and arresting DUI drivers during their normal shifts.

Police officers, sheriff deputies and the CHP encourage all motorists to help make your community safer. DUI arrest data collection will continue through Labor Day, midnight, Monday, September 2, 2013. Avoid programs are named for the number of participating police agencies in each county. 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 who reminds you to 'Report Drunk Drivers, Call 911!'

MEDIA NOTE: The checkpoint locations and saturation patrols will be made available for media opportunities or ride-a-longs each night. To schedule an interview regarding anti-drunk driving efforts or to request a ride-a-long with law enforcement, please contact Lieutenant Mark Rossi at 951.826.8777 or via email at MRossi@riversideca.gov.

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