



Avoid the 30 Riverside County PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WINTER HOLIDAY AVOID DUI CAMPAIGN – MONDAY UPDATE

DUI Arrests Down & DUI Fatalities Up

The Winter Holiday Anti-DUI crackdown has resulted in more DUI arrests from local routine traffic enforcement and special Avoid the 30 DUI deployments overnight in Riverside County.

From 12:01 AM Friday, December 16, 2011, through Midnight, Sunday, December 18, 2011, police officers and sheriff deputies representing 30 Riverside County law enforcement agencies have arrested 53 individuals for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. In 2010, 160 DUI arrests occurred during the same three (3) day time period.

Tragically, there have been two deaths attributed to drunk drivers in our area. The first incident occurred Friday in Temecula and the second incident occurred yesterday in Coachella. Last year, there was one alcohol related death during this same time period.

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

Over the next few days of the campaign, DUI checkpoints will be conducted in the City of Moreno Valley and extra local DUI saturation patrols will be deployed in the City of Desert Hot Springs. All regularly scheduled traffic and patrol officers will focus efforts at stopping and arresting DUI drivers during their normal shifts. Multiple DUI/driver's license checkpoints, multi-agency DUI task force operations and local roving DUI patrols are set region-wide during this 17-day Winter Holiday Campaign.

Police officers, sheriff deputies and the CHP encourage all motorists to help law enforcement: Report Drunk Drivers – Call 911. DUI arrest data collection will continue through New Year's Weekend, midnight Sunday, January 1, 2012. Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

MEDIA NOTES: Please visit the AVOID website at www.californiaavoid.org for more information the on campaign's DUI Enforcement, statistical data on DUI arrests and DUI fatal crashes from earlier enforcement efforts. The checkpoint locations and saturation patrols will be made available for media opportunities or ride-alongs each night. For Riverside County Avoid the 30 program information and results, visit avoidthe30.org or look for us on Facebook. To schedule an interview regarding anti-drunk driving efforts, or to request a ride-along with law enforcement during the holiday period, please contact Sergeant Skip Showalter at 951-351-6046 or via email at sshowalter@riversideca.gov

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