



## NEWS

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Countryside Police Department Launches Intensive Crackdown on Impaired Driving**

COUNTRYSIDE, Ill. - The Countryside Police Department announced today it will be conducting special patrols this Labor Day holiday cracking down on impaired drivers.

“All too often, innocent law-abiding people suffer tragic consequences and the loss of loved ones due to this careless disregard for human life. Because we are committed to ending the carnage, we are intensifying enforcement during the crackdown. We will be especially vigilant during high-risk nighttime hours when impaired drivers are most likely to be on our roads,” said Chief Swanson. “If you plan on drinking alcohol, designate a sober driver before the party begins. Be responsible or risk a DUI.”

“Our message is simple and unwavering. If we find you driving impaired, we will arrest you. No exceptions,” said Chief Swanson. “Even if you beat the odds and walk away from an impaired driving crash alive, motorists should be aware that the consequences of driving while impaired can still virtually destroy your life.”

According to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates, in Illinois in 2006, 594 people died in crashes involving alcohol (at least one driver involved had a BAC of 0.01 or higher), representing 47 percent of all motor vehicle crash fatalities.

According to IDOT data, during the Labor Day weekend last year in Illinois, 20 people lost their lives in motor vehicle crashes. Seven of those deaths involved a drinking driver.

Chief Swanson said that always designating a sober driver and not letting friends drive impaired are just two of several simple steps to help avoid a tragic crash or an arrest for impaired driving.