

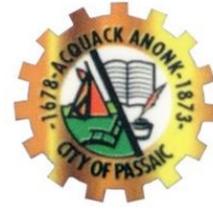


PASSAIC POLICE DEPARTMENT TRAFFIC DIVISION

330 PASSAIC STREET, PASSAIC, NJ 07055

OFFICE 973.365.3920

FAX 973.365.3986



Jonathan H. Schaer
Lieutenant

Impaired Driving Enforcement Crackdown to be Conducted Locally as Part of Statewide Year End Campaign

(Passaic, NJ) – Law enforcement officials from Passaic will be cracking down on drivers impaired by alcohol or drugs as part of the annual end of year “*Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*” statewide campaign. Beginning December 8, 2017 and continuing through January 1, 2018, local and state law enforcement officials will conduct saturation patrols and sobriety checkpoints looking for motorists who may be driving while intoxicated.

The national “*Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*” effort endeavors to raise awareness about the dangers of impaired driving through a combination of high-visibility enforcement and public education. “During the last five years New Jersey has experienced nearly 40,000 alcohol involved crashes resulting in more than 750 fatalities,” said Chief Luis Guzman. “This is a critical law enforcement program that can save lives during a time of the year when impaired driving traditionally increases by nearly 10 percent.”

Last year, 20% of all motor vehicle fatalities in New Jersey were alcohol-related. Nationally, more than 10,000 people die each year in drunk driving crashes. The societal cost associated with these crashes is estimated to be \$37 billion annually.

Law enforcement agencies participating in the *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over 2017 Year End Holiday Crackdown* offer the following advice for the holiday season:

- Take mass transit, a taxicab, or ask a sober friend to drive you home.
- Spend the night where the activity or party is held.
- If you see an impaired driver on the road, contact law enforcement. Your actions may save someone’s life, and inaction could cost a life.
- Always buckle-up, every ride. It’s your best defense against an impaired driver.
- If you are intoxicated and traveling on foot, the safest way to get home is to take a cab or have a sober friend or family member drive or escort you to your doorstep.
- Be responsible. If someone you know is drinking, do not let that person get behind the wheel.