



City of Ridgecrest Police Department

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RONALD N. STRAND, Chief of Police

Press Release

DATE and TIME of INCIDENT:: March 17-18, 2011, 2100-0300 hrs

TYPE OF EVENT: DUI Saturation Patrol

LOCATION: City of Ridgecrest

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk This St. Patrick's Day

Don't Depend on Dumb Luck—Designate a Sober Driver Before the Party Begins

Ridgecrest CA— St. Patrick's Day is a popular night out to socialize with friends, family and coworkers; however, with so many local establishments promoting alcohol sales or special promotional events, far too many drunk drivers head out onto streets making it dangerous for all.

As a counter measure to all the 'green beer' on sale St Patty's Day, Ridgecrest PD will deploy DUI Roving Patrols on March 17th and 18th in our ongoing campaign to take careless dangerous Drunk or Buzzed Drivers off the road before they crash.

The extra DUI Saturation patrols will be supplementing regularly scheduled shift deployments planned for Thursday/Friday. The specialized DUI Officers will be focusing in areas with high incidents of DUI collisions and arrests.

Ridgecrest Police Department recommends the following easy steps, for a safe St. Patrick's Day.

- Plan a safe way home before the festivities begin;
- Before drinking, please designate a sober driver and leave your car keys at home;
- If you're impaired, use a taxi, call a sober friend or family member, or use public transportation so you are sure to get home safely;
- If you happen to see a drunk driver on the road, don't hesitate to **Call 911**;
- And remember, if you know someone who is about to drive or ride while impaired, take their keys and help them make other arrangements to get to where they are going safely.

Driving buzzed or drunk driving is simply not worth the risk. Don't depend on dumb luck this St. Patrick's Day. Give up your keys - Designate your sober driver before the party begins.

These DUI Saturation Patrols are funded by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

RONALD N. STRAND, Chief of Police

PREPARED BY: Sergeant Mike Myers

March 1, 2011, 08:25 hrs