### 2021 Holiday Season *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*

## FACT SHEET

The U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is teaming up with the law enforcement community nationwide during the 2021 Holiday Season *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* high-visibility enforcement campaign, which runs from December 15, 2021, through January 1, 2022. NHTSA and **[Local Law Enforcement]** are working tirelessly to spread the word about the dangers of drunk driving and to remind all drivers: If you plan to drink alcohol, plan ahead for a sober ride home. These expanded efforts to protect against impaired driving will be conducted in a fair and equitable way.

**Sobering Statistics**

* According to NHTSA, 837 people lost their lives in traffic crashes involving a drunk driver in December 2019.
* During the 2019 Christmas (6 p.m. Tuesday, December 24 to 5:59 a.m. Thursday, December 26) and New Year’s Day (6 p.m. Friday, December 28, 2018, to 5:59 a.m. Wednesday, January 2, 2019) holiday periods, there were more drunk-driving-related fatalities (210) than during any other holiday period that year.
* Approximately one-third of all traffic crash fatalities in the United States involve drunk drivers (with blood alcohol concentrations [BACs] at or above .08 grams per deciliter [g/dL]). In 2019, there were 10,142 people killed in drunk-driving crashes.
* Nationally, it is illegal to drive with a BAC of .08 or higher, except in Utah, where the limit is .05 g/dL.
* Although it’s illegal to drive when impaired by alcohol, in 2019, one person was killed every 52 minutes in a drunk-driving crash on our nation’s roads.
* Men are more likely than women to be driving drunk when involved in fatal crashes. In 2019, 21% of male drivers were drunk, compared to 14% of female drivers.
* Of the traffic fatalities in 2019 among children 14 and younger, 19% (204) occurred in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes.
* Among the 10,142 alcohol-impaired-driving fatalities in 2019, 68% (6,872) were in crashes in which at least one driver had a BAC of .15 or higher.
* Nighttime is a particularly dangerous time to be on the roads: The rate of alcohol impairment among drivers involved in fatal crashes in 2019 was 3.3 times higher at night than during the day.
* **[Local holiday season statistic if available.]**

**The Cost of Drunk Driving**

* On average, a DUI can set you back $10,000 in attorney’s fees, fines, court costs, lost time at work, higher insurance rates, and more.
* The financial impact from impaired-driving crashes is devastating. Based on 2010 numbers (the most recent year for which cost data is available), impaired-driving crashes cost the United States $44 billion annually.
* If you’re caught drinking and driving, you can face jail time. Imagine trying to explain that to your friends and family or your place of employment.
* Drinking and driving can cause you to lose your driver’s license and your vehicle. This could inhibit you from getting to work, resulting in lost wages and, potentially, job loss.

 **Celebrate with a Plan**

Always remember to plan ahead if you will be celebrating. If you plan to drink, plan for a sober driver to take you home. Is it your turn to be the designated driver? Take that role seriously and do not consume alcohol, not even one drink.

* Remember that it is never okay to drink and drive. Even if you’ve had only one alcoholic beverage, designate a sober driver or plan to use public transportation or a ride service to get home safely.
* If available, use your community’s sober ride program **[Insert your local sober ride program specifics here].**
* If you see a drunk driver on the road, contact **[Local Law Enforcement].**
* Do you have a friend who is about to drink and drive? Take the keys away and make arrangements to get your friend home safely.

For more information about the *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* campaign, visit <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/drunk-driving/national-mobilization/peak-enforcement-kit>.