**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: [Date]**

**CONTACT: [Name, Phone Number, Email Address]**

**NHTSA Cautions Drivers:**

***Drive High, Get a DUI.***

**[City, State]** — This Independence Day, the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is urging drivers to refrain from driving impaired. In all 50 states, it is illegal to drive while impaired by any substance, including drugs. This Fourth of July holiday, local law enforcement are participating in the *If You Feel Different, You Drive Different. Drive High, Get a DUI.* campaign to help prevent drug-impaired driving, and to arrest impaired drivers caught out on the roads.

“Laws regarding drug use, especially marijuana, are often changing across the country, but one thing remains unchanged: Impaired driving is illegal,” said **[Local Law Enforcement Officer].** “Not only is it illegal, it’s dangerous. Driving impaired by any substance can put you and others at risk. If we find that a driver is impaired, we will arrest you, and that DUI will surely put a damper on your Independence Day.”

Violating **[State]**’s drug-impaired driving laws can be costly.

Many people believe that being high doesn’t affect driving abilities, but they are wrong. It has been proven that marijuana can slow reaction times, impair cognitive performance, and make it more difficult for drivers to keep a steady position in their lane.

Those who plan to use drugs should not drive. Even over-the-counter and prescription medications can have impairing effects. Drivers should secure a designated sober driver or call a taxi or rideshare for a sober ride home.

If a driver finds they are unable to drive, they should give their keys to a sober driver so that person can get them home safely. When a friend has been drinking and is considering driving, friends should be proactive — take away the keys and help them get a sober ride home. If anyone spots a drunk driver, contact local law enforcement.

Join NHTSA in sharing the lifesaving message, *If You Feel Different, You Drive Different. Drive High, Get a DUI.* For more information on impaired driving, visit [www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drug-impaired-driving](http://www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drug-impaired-driving).

###