FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: [Date]

CONTACT: [Name, Phone Number, Email Address]

## Never Drive High on Thanksgiving or Any Day

**[City, State]**  — The U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is reminding drivers about the deadly consequences of drug-impaired driving. For a safe Thanksgiving night, drivers should make plans for a sober ride home. Remember: *If You Feel Different, You Drive Different*.

“It’s a common and dangerous misconception that people drive better when they are high,” said [**Local Official**]. “This message is simple: Impaired driving is always dangerous, and it’s always illegal. Our goal is to ensure that drug-impaired driving and its deadly consequences do not rob anyone of their life and chance to enjoy a safe Thanksgiving holiday. Remember: *If You Feel Different, You Drive Different*. If you are high, do not drive.”

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 using drugs and is considering driving, friends should be proactive — take away the keys and help them get a sober ride home. If anyone spots an impaired driver, contact local law enforcement.

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

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