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DUI Saturation Patrols This Friday

18-155

November 24, 2018 | 2:57 AM

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San Francisco Police Department's Traffic Unit will be conducting DUI saturation patrols today, November 23, 2018, between the hours of 7:00 P.M. and 3:00 A.M. Research shows that crashes involving an impaired driver can be reduced by up to 20 percent when well-publicized DUI checkpoints and proactive DUI patrols are conducted routinely.

Officers will be looking for signs of alcohol and/or drug impairment by checking drivers for proper licensing, delaying motorists only momentarily. When possible, specially trained officers will be available to evaluate those suspected of drug-impaired driving. Recent statistics reveal that 30 percent of drivers in fatal crashes had one or more drugs in their systems. A study of active drivers showed more tested positive for drugs that may impair driving (14 percent) than did for alcohol (7.3 percent). Of the drugs, marijuana was most prevalent, at 7.4 percent, slightly more than alcohol.

Drivers caught driving impaired can expect the impact of a DUI arrest to include jail time, fines, fees, DUI classes, other expenses that can exceed \$10,000, not to mention the embarrassment when friends and family find out.

The San Francisco Police Department offers these reminders to ensure you have a safe night of fun that doesn't involve a DUI:

Decide before you go out whether you plan to drink or drive. You can't do both. If you plan to drink, designate a sober driver.

Take a taxi, ride-share or public transportation. You can also look up sober ride programs using the [National Directory of Designated Driver Services](#) (NDDDS).

See a friend or another patron impaired trying to get behind the wheel? Take the keys away and help them make other arrangements to get home safely.

Report drunk drivers – call [9-1-1](#).

Volunteering as a designated sober driver? Our designated driver very important person (“DDVIP”) program partners with bars and restaurants to offer non-alcohol specialty drinks for DDs.

Funding for this checkpoint is provided to the San Francisco Police Department by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, reminding everyone to ‘Report Drunk Drivers – Call [9-1-1](#)’.

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