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**SHERIFF-CORONER DEPARTMENT
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PRESS RELEASE

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Avoid DUI Task Force Deploys Extra Patrols For Cinco de Mayo

Designate a Driver before the 'Fiesta' Begins

Cinco de Mayo is a special opportunity to gather with friends and co-workers for chips, salsa and Margaritas, celebrating California's rich cultural diversity. It is also a night when dangerous and often deadly outcomes occur because another impaired driver hits the road drunk.

The Orange County "Avoid the 38" DUI Task Force will be deploying overtime patrols in the following cities: Anaheim, Buena Park, Costa Mesa, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Garden Grove, La Habra Laguna Beach, La Palma, Placentia, Santa Ana and Westminster, as well as the Sheriff's Department's Contract Cities. The Cal State University of Fullerton Police will also have patrols out. These patrols will be looking for the signs of a drunk driver to stop, test and arrest those who have had too much alcohol.

Everyone, including hosts, local bars and restaurants must be sure to promote designated sober drivers in advance, before the 'Fiesta' begins.

Plan ahead with these tips:

- Arrange rides home for your friends, family, co-workers and yourself before the drinking begins.
- Identify and provide free non-alcoholic drinks to the Designated Driver.
- Party hosts and servers must limit drinks to your guests or patrons. Don't serve more than one or two over several hours.
- Cut back on the amount of drinks you plan to bring to the party – and provide plenty of food.
- If you see dangerous driving, Report Drunk Drivers – Call 9-1-1!

"Drunk driving is simply not worth the risk. Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for impaired driving can be significant," said Sgt Mark Daigle of the Sheriff's Department Traffic Bureau. "Violators often face jail time, the loss of their driver's license, higher insurance rates, attorney fees, time away from work, and dozens of other expenses. So don't take the chance."

"Avoid the 38" DUI Task Force funding is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

For more information on the patrols, contact the Sheriff's Department's Public Affairs Office at (714) 647-7042.