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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Memorial Day Weekend Holiday DUI Crackdown**

#### *High Visibility “Avoid” DUI Campaign Set for Holiday Weekend*

Orange, CA – The “Avoid the 38”- Orange County DUI Task Force will be deploying officers this holiday weekend at DUI/Driver’s License Checkpoints and DUI Saturation Patrols countywide to arrest impaired drivers who still don’t get the message. The enforcement period runs from Friday at 6:00 pm until Monday at midnight.

The Memorial Day weekend kicks off summertime recreation and holiday travel, along with many college and high school graduations. The next 100 days will also see a rise in deaths and injuries as far too many individuals get behind the wheel impaired.

“The “Avoid the 38” DUI Task Force will have a Zero Tolerance policy in effect during the enforcement period” said Sgt. Mark Daigle with the Orange County Sheriff’s Department Traffic Bureau. “If you are caught driving while impaired, you will be arrested and taken to jail. The impact a DUI arrest can have on a driver, as well as their family, is devastating. Think twice before getting behind the wheel and driving impaired”.

The operation begins Friday night with DUI/Drivers License checkpoints in the cities of Anaheim, La Habra and Rancho Santa Margarita, with special DUI Saturation Patrols deploying in the cities of Anaheim and La Habra. The City of Buena Park will conduct a DUI/Driver’s License Checkpoint on Saturday night. The City of Seal Beach will host a DUI/Driver’s License checkpoint on Sunday night. More local DUI Saturation Patrols will be out during the enforcement period in the cities of Brea, Buena Park, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Irvine, Laguna Beach, Los Alamitos, Newport Beach, Placentia, Santa Ana and the University of California, Irvine. The Orange County Sheriff’s Department will be deploying Task Force Members in their Contract Cities. The California Highway Patrol is deploying all available officers Memorial Day weekend onto freeways and county roads in their jurisdiction.

“Sobriety Checkpoints are a proven deterrent along with the ‘High Visibility’ enforcement campaigns to change behavior such as drunk driving, driving unrestrained and driving distracted,” said Chris Murphy, Director of the California Office of Traffic Safety. “Drivers who know that there is Zero Tolerance when it comes to drunk driving take measures to use a Designated Sober Driver and call 9-1-1 to report a suspected drunk driver weaving down the road ahead of them.”

Law enforcement agencies region-wide are asking for your support this holiday weekend and all summer:

- Be responsible when hosting a party. Don’t allow friends and family to drink to excess
- Always promote a Designated Sober Driver
- Report Drunk Drivers. Call 911!

Funding for the “Avoid” campaign is through a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The “Avoid” campaign will deploy checkpoints and DUI patrols again during the Independence Day Holiday and for the August/Labor DUI Mobilization.

For more information on the Checkpoints or Saturation Patrols, contact the Sheriff Department’s Public Affairs Office at (714) 647-7042

**Note:** See Attached Enforcement Schedule of Operations for dates/locations/times within the county.

## **Orange County Avoid the 38 DUI Task Force**

### **Memorial Day Weekend Schedule of Operations**

#### **Sobriety Checkpoint:**

FRIDAY, May 27: Anaheim Police Dept: 8 p.m. to 3 a.m. in the 2300 block of W. Ball Rd.

FRIDAY, May 27: La Habra Police Dept: 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the Downtown Area.

FRIDAY, May 27: Orange County Sheriff's Dept: 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the City of Rancho Santa Margarita.

SATURDAY, May 28: Buena Park Police Dept: 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., in the Central Area.

SUNDAY, May 29: Multi- Agency Checkpoint: 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the City of Seal Beach

#### **Saturation Patrols:**

FRIDAY – MONDAY: The Orange County Sheriff's Department will deploy Avoid DUI Task Force members in the Sheriff's Contract Cities.

Extra DUI Roving Patrols will be assigned by police departments within the cities of Anaheim, Brea, Buena Park, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Irvine, La Habra, Laguna Beach, Los Alamitos, Newport Beach, Placentia, Santa Ana, Yorba Linda and the University of California at Irvine.

California Highway Patrol Maximum Enforcement Period: CHP will assign 80 percent of all available officers to the region's freeways and unincorporated roads beginning 6 PM Friday through midnight Monday.

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

Funding for the Avoid Campaign is through a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

For information on the California Avoid Program, go to [www.californiaavoid.org](http://www.californiaavoid.org)