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**SHERIFF-CORONER DEPARTMENT
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PRESS RELEASE

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**The Orange County Avoid the 38 DUI Campaign
Launches Intensive Crackdown on Impaired Driving**

Law Enforcement Isn't Easing Up; Everyone Found Driving Over the Limit Will Be Arrested

The Avoid the 38 Orange County DUI Task Force today announced it will join nearly 10,000 other law enforcement agencies nationwide in support of an intensive crackdown on impaired driving August 19 through September 5, known as “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over”.

DUI Driver’s License Checkpoints, Multi-Agency DUI Task Force deployments and local Roving DUI patrols are scheduled locally, in partnership with law enforcement nationwide, during the Summer/Labor Day Campaign.

The crime of impaired driving is a serious one. In 2009 alone, 10,839 people died in crashes in which a driver or motorcycle rider was at or above the legal limit, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The age group with the highest percentage of alcohol-impaired-driving fatalities in motor vehicle traffic crashes was the 21 to 24 age group.

CHP, Police and Sheriff’s Deputies will be aggressively looking for all impaired drivers during the crackdown and will arrest anyone they find driving while impaired.

“Our message is simple and unwavering: if we find you driving impaired, we will arrest you. No exceptions,” said Deputy Wayne Howard with the Sheriff’s Department Traffic Bureau. “Even if you beat the odds and manage to walk away from an impaired-driving crash, the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for driving while impaired can still destroy your life.”

The national ***Driver Sober or Get Pulled Over*** crackdown is led by the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) and NHTSA. The California Avoid DUI Task Force Campaign combines high-visibility enforcement and heightened public awareness through publicity.

For statewide and local Avoid DUI Task Force Campaign Enforcement Schedules and Daily DUI Arrest/Fatal Stats, visit www.californiaavoid.org. The Program is funded by the California Office of Traffic Safety who reminds everyone to please – Report Drunk Driving – Call 9-1-1!

For more information contact the Sheriff’s Department Public Affairs Office at (714) 647-7042.

