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NEWS RELEASE

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Drive merry, bright and sober this holiday season *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over, Drive High Get a DUI*

Lake in the Hills, IL – The Lake in the Hills Police Department is partnering with the Illinois Department of Transportation to spread the word about the dangers of impaired driving with a “Driver Sober or Get Pulled Over” and “Drive High. Get a DUI” enforcement campaign. From December 15 through January 2, law enforcement across Illinois will show zero tolerance for alcohol- and drug-impaired driving to keep our roads safe and help ensure a happy holiday season.

“If you’ll be celebrating with festive drinks or other impairing substances, make a plan for a safe ride home before you leave for the party,” said Officer Amanda Schmitt, the Lake in the Hills Public Information Officer. “Driving impaired is simply unacceptable. That’s why we will make zero exceptions and arrest all impaired drivers.”

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s Fatality Analysis Reporting System, in the United States in 2021, a total of 13,384 people were killed in motor vehicle crashes involving an alcohol-impaired driver. On average, more than 10,000 people were killed in alcohol-related crashes each year from 2017 to 2021, with one person killed in a drunk-driving crash approximately every 45 minutes. These fatalities are preventable, and drivers must remember that driving impaired — by alcohol, cannabis or any other substance, whether legal or not — is potentially deadly and illegal behavior.

The Lake in the Hills Police Department recommends these safe alternatives to drinking and driving:

- Designate a sober driver or plan to use public transportation or a ride-sharing service.
- If you see an impaired driver on the road, pull over to a safe location and contact your local law enforcement agency.
- Have a friend or family member who is about to drive impaired? Take their keys and make arrangements to get them home safely. They’ll thank you later.
- Remember to buckle up!

The holiday enforcement campaign is administered by IDOT with federal highway safety funds managed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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Any criminal or traffic complaint(s) that have been filed against any individual(s) named herein are only an accusation. All defendant(s) are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. All inquiries regarding this news release are to be directed to the Public Information Officer at 847-658-5676 or communityrelations@lith.org unless otherwise noted.