



1115 Crystal Lake Road  
Lake in the Hills, IL 60156

Main: 847-658-5676  
Fax: 847- 960-7552  
[www.lith.org/police](http://www.lith.org/police)

## PRESS RELEASE

Date: June 15, 2021  
Department: Police Department  
Contact Name: Communications Coordinator Ashley Eccles  
Phone Number: 847-658-5676  
Fax Number: 847-960-7552

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### **Celebrate Independence Day Safely: Don't Drink and Drive**

**Lake in the Hills, IL** – This Independence Day, the Lake in the Hills Police Department is participating in the *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* impaired driving awareness campaign. The campaign runs from June 17 through July 6. In support of the law enforcement community's dedication to protecting the lives of residents in their communities, you'll see officers working together over the holiday weekend to take drunk drivers off the roads.

Sadly, July 4<sup>th</sup> is one of the deadliest holidays of the year due to impaired-driving crashes. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 10,142 people were killed in motor vehicle crashes in 2019 that involved an alcohol-impaired driver. In 2019, 515 people died in motor vehicle traffic crashes over the July 4th holiday period.

Please celebrate Independence Day safely this year. The Lake in the Hills Police Department recommends these safe alternatives to drinking and driving:

- Designate a sober driver or plan to use a ride service to get home safely.
- Do you have a friend who is about to drink and drive? Take the keys away and make arrangements to get your friend home safely.
- Make sure everyone in your vehicle wears their seat belt. Not only is it the law, it's your best defense against an impaired driver.
- Report drunk drivers to law enforcement as soon as it is safe to do so by pulling over and dialing 911.
- Pedestrians can be at risk as well. If you are walking, keep an eye out for cars. Designated drivers should also be alert for impaired walkers who may not obey street signs.

The *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* and *Click It or Ticket* campaigns are made possible by federal traffic safety funds administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

**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 press release are to be directed to the Communications Coordinator at 847-658-5676 unless otherwise noted.**