



1115 Crystal Lake Road
Lake in the Hills, IL 60156

Main: 847-658-5676
Fax: 847- 960-7552
www.lith.org/police

PRESS RELEASE

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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 - The Lake in the Hills Police Department announced plans for July Fourth traffic enforcement with a focus on impaired and unbuckled drivers. The safety campaign will run from June 17 through July 8 to encompass three summer weekends leading up to and after Independence Day. Many people celebrate the 4th of July with family, friends, food, and fireworks, but all too often the festivities turn tragic on roadways. This iconic American holiday is also one of the deadliest holidays of the year due to impaired-driving crashes. NHTSA reports that during the July 4th holiday period in 2017, 601 people died nationwide in motor vehicle traffic crashes; thirty-nine percent of those fatalities occurred in alcohol-impaired crashes.

“We’re asking all of our residents and visitors to celebrate Independence Day safely,” said Communications Coordinator Ashley Eccles. “It’s simple: If you’re driving, don’t drink or use drugs. Our officers will be out in full force to keep impaired drivers off the road.” The Lake in the Hills Police Department will join the Illinois State Police and more than 160 local police and sheriff’s departments for the increased statewide enforcement effort.

Please celebrate Independence Day safely this year and remember to:

- Give your designated driver your keys before you go out.
- If you are impaired, contact your favorite ride-sharing service, take mass transit, or call a sober friend or family member to get you 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.
- Promptly report drunk drivers to law enforcement 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.

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.

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. The crackdown runs concurrently with a media campaign reminding motorists that impaired driving has “Life or Death” consequences. Visit LifeOrDeathIllinois.com for more information.

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