

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## The Lake in the Hills Police Department plans stepped-up traffic enforcement for July Fourth celebrations

Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over, Drive High Get a DUI

Lake in the Hills, IL – As Independence Day approaches, the Lake in the Hills Police Department is gearing up for increased traffic enforcement to ensure the safety of all residents and motorists. From June 21 through the early-morning hours of July 8, Lake in the Hills officers will be working tirelessly to keep impaired drivers off the road and ticketing unbuckled motorists.

"During this 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday, we remind everyone to celebrate responsibly," said the Lake in the Hills Public Information Officer Amanda Schmitt. "Let's keep our roads safe for everyone. Enjoy the festivities, but always plan for a safe ride home. Your safety and the safety of others depend on it."

Driving under the influence not only poses a grave risk to oneself but also endangers passengers and fellow road users. The financial and human costs of a DUI are immeasurable. The decision to avoid driving impaired is simple and could spare lives.

The Lake in the Hills Police Department is collaborating with the Illinois State Police and over 200 local police and sheriffs' departments in this unified effort to enhance statewide enforcement during this period.

To ensure a fun and safe holiday celebration, the police department urges everyone to follow these tips:

- Designate a sober driver before heading out.
- Prevent friends and family members from driving under the influence.
- If you find yourself impaired, use safe alternatives such as taxis, public transit and ride-sharing apps, or contact a sober friend or family member for a ride.
- Use designated driver programs available in your community.
- Report suspected drunk drivers promptly to law enforcement by pulling over and dialing 911.
- Ensure that all passengers in your vehicle buckle up. It's not only the law, but also a crucial defense against impaired drivers.

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.

The traffic safety enforcement effort, including the "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over," "Drive High Get a DUI," and "Click It or Ticket" programs, is made possible through federal highway safety funds administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation. These efforts are complemented by IDOT's "It's Not a Game" media campaign, which emphasizes the serious consequences of impaired driving and other unsafe driving behaviors.

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