



HAWTHORNE POLICE DEPARTMENT

12501 S HAWTHORNE BL | HAWTHORNE | CALIFORNIA | 90250

February 28, 2017

PRESS RELEASE

Subject: DUI / Driver's License Checkpoint & DUI Roving Saturation Patrols

The Hawthorne Police Department Traffic Unit will be conducting a DUI / Driver's License checkpoint at an undisclosed location within the city limits along with special DUI Roving Saturation Patrols during the month of March.

- DUI/Driver's License Checkpoint is set for March 3, 2017 from 9:00 pm to 4:00 am
- Roving DUI Saturation Patrols will be deploying on various days in March during nighttime hours

Over the course of the past three years, DUI collisions have claimed 7 lives and resulted in 113 injury crashes harming 160 of our friends and neighbors in Hawthorne. Within the past year alone, 239 people have been arrested in Hawthorne on suspicion of drunk driving or drug-impaired driving.

In California, this deadly crime led to 802 deaths because someone failed to designate a sober driver. Alcohol and drug-impaired deaths still make up the largest category of overall vehicle fatalities in 2014 with 29 percent of all deaths caused by a drunk driver. A DUI checkpoint is a proven effective method to lower these numbers. Additionally, drivers will be checked to ensure that they have a valid driver's license. When possible, specially trained officers will be available to evaluate those suspected of drug-impaired driving.

The Hawthorne Police Department reminds everyone that they can assist in preventing this crime from ever occurring. If you are planning a gathering or celebration with alcohol included, or if you are out on the town, plan ahead and designate a non-drinking sober driver. A DUI and drug-impaired arrest can cost up to \$10,000 or even more, including time in jail, the loss of your driver's license and high insurance rates.

These enforcement efforts are funded by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Remember, everyone is encouraged to help keep our roadways safe; Report Drunk Drivers – Call 911!

F O R P U B L I C R E L E A S E

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