



SKOKIE POLICE DEPARTMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 25, 2010

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Skokie Police Department

DUI Roadside Safety Checkpoints

Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.

Skokie, IL – Today, the Skokie Police Department announced the extension of its DUI enforcement campaign during March. The DUI Roadside Safety Checkpoint will be located on the 5000 block of Dempster. It will begin at 11:15 p.m. on Friday, March 5, 2010, and conclude at 3:15 a.m. on Saturday, March 06, 2010.

During the checkpoint, police officers will focus their efforts on drivers who are impaired by alcohol or drugs, are driving with suspended licenses, and drivers' failure to use safety equipment such as seatbelts and child restraints.

According to data from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the midnight to 3:00 a.m. time frame is the deadliest time on Illinois roads. Not coincidentally, the data also shows this time of day has the highest percentage of alcohol involvement and the lowest safety belt use. For the last 4 years (2005-2008), 54 percent of the drivers involved in fatal crashes from midnight to 3:00 a.m. had been drinking alcohol.

The Skokie Police Department recommends designating a sober driver and not letting friends and family drive impaired as just two of several simple steps to avoid a tragic crash or an arrest for impaired driving. Other important tips include:

- Plan ahead. Designate a sober driver before going out and give that person your keys.
- If you are impaired, call a taxi, use mass transit or call a sober friend or family member to get you home safely.
- Promptly report impaired drivers you see on the roadways to law enforcement;
- Wear your safety belt. It is your best defense against an impaired driver.