



# Press Release

## North Fond du Lac Police Department

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**For Immediate Distribution**

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### **Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.**

## **North Fond du Lac Police join nationwide law enforcement crackdown to prevent drunken driving**

To combat the deadly dangers of drunken driving, North Fond du Lac Police Department officers will be out in force to arrest impaired motorists as part of a nationwide law enforcement crackdown from Aug. 21 through Sept. 7. The "Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest" crackdown will combine stringent law enforcement with a federally funded media campaign to deter impaired driving.

Drunken driving devastates individuals, families and whole communities. Last year, alcohol-related crashes in Wisconsin killed 234 people and injured 4,319, according to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. Approximately 37,000 drivers—a number nearly equal to the population of Beloit—were convicted of drunken driving in Wisconsin in 2008.

This year, deaths from motorcycle crashes are increasing compared with last year, and approximately 47 percent of all fatal motorcycle crashes in Wisconsin are alcohol-related.

Captain Darren Pautsch said, "Drunken driving is too prevalent and too deadly to ignore. That's why we don't give warnings or accept excuses for drunken driving. If you're over the limit, you'll be arrested. During the upcoming crackdown and throughout the rest of the year, our goal is not to arrest more drunken drivers. We simply are trying to save lives and prevent injuries. If we can deter people from getting behind the wheel when they're impaired, we will make progress toward the goal of reducing the number of preventable traffic deaths to *Zero in Wisconsin*."

Instead of risking an arrest for impaired driving, North Fond du Lac police offer the following suggestions:

- Choose a sober designated driver before you start to drink.
- If you're feeling buzzed, you probably are over the 0.08 (alcohol concentration) limit and should not drive.
- Rather than drive while impaired, take a taxicab or ask a sober friend to drive you home.
- Some taverns and restaurants have programs to provide patrons with a safe ride home. (Visit [www.tlw.org](http://www.tlw.org) and click on Safe Ride for more information.)