

Impaired Driving Enforcement Crackdown to be Conducted in Hudson County as Part of National Campaign

HUDSON COUNTY – Hudson County Sheriff Frank Schillari announced today that the Hudson County Sheriff's Office will be participating in New Jersey's largest annual drunk driving crackdown. Officers from Hudson County Sheriff's Office will be participating in the 2016 Labor Day Statewide "*Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*" campaign. Beginning August 19 and running through September 5, County, Local and State law enforcement officers will conduct sobriety checkpoints and roving patrols, looking for motorists who may be driving while impaired by alcohol or drugs.

"Our participation in the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign looks to curtail impaired driving during the busy summer travel season, including the Labor Day holiday period. Even one drink can impair your judgment and reaction time, putting not only yourself, but everyone on the road, in danger," said Sheriff Schillari "I will be adding extra patrols and a checkpoint as part of our enforcement efforts. The extra patrols are paid through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administrations Drive Sober or Get Pulled over grant."

In 2014 alcohol-impaired fatalities accounted for 27 percent of New Jersey's motor vehicle fatalities. As part of the initiative, the Division of Highway Traffic Safety provides grants to local law enforcement agencies throughout the state to run the two-week campaign. "Last year, 20% of the fatal crashes in Hudson County were alcohol related" the Sheriff said.

Sheriff Schillari offers the following advice:

- If you plan to drink, designate a driver, someone who will not drink alcohol, before going out.
- Take mass transit, a taxi or ask a sober friend to drive you home.
- Spend the night where the activity is held.
- Always buckle up, every ride, regardless of your seating position in the vehicle. It's your best defense against an impaired driver.
- If you're intoxicated and traveling on foot, the safest way to get home is to take a cab or have a sober friend or family member drive you to your doorstep.