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VISION CENTER

(Neb.)-"You Drink And Drive, You Lose" Campaign To Take Place In Chadron

By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 12/07/2012 08:57 AM

(CHADRON)-Starting Friday, December 14th and continuing through Saturday, January 1st, officers from the Chadron Police Department will be participating in the "You Drink And Drive, You Lose" campaign sponsored by a grant funded by the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety. The $1,375.42 grant will provide 52 additional hours for 10 officers and three dispatchers during the 19-day enforcement period. This will be the ninth DUI grant in which the Chadron Police Department has participated.

The purpose and goal of the campaign is to contribute to the overall reduction of drunken driving injuries and fatalities by deterring those who might decide to operate a motor vehicle while impaired.

Statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration indicate:

· In 2010, 10,228 people were killed in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes. These crashes accounted for 31% of the total motor vehicle traffic fatalities in the United States.

· Traffic fatalities in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes decreased by 4.9% from 10,759 in 2009 to 10,228 in 2010.

· An average of one alcohol impaired driving fatality occurred every 51 minutes in 2010.

· Of the 10,228 people who died in alcohol impaired driving crashes in 2010, 6,627 (65%) were drivers with a BAC of .08 or higher.

· In 2009, the most frequent recorded BAC level among drinking drivers in fatal crashes was .17.

· Of the 1,314 children age 14 and younger killed in motor vehicle crashes, 181 or 14% occurred in alcohol related crashes in 2009.

During their last campaign, Chadron Police officers were successful in removing intoxicated drivers from the roads and hope to build on the success of promoting safe driving in the community. The consequences of drinking and driving are jail time, fines, loss of driver's license and operating privileges, as well as personal embarrassment, adverse effects on job prospects, and financial costs, not to mention the possibility of killing or permanently injuring other individuals.

Officers will step up enforcement during the grant period by conducting as many vehicle stops and making as many contacts as possible during high risk hours. The Chadron PD believes the chance of being caught is too high a risk given the consequences and would ask the public to be sensible and responsible.

For questions, contact Chadron Police Officer Erick Wickman at 308-432-0510.

--Chadron Police Department

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