

Illinois Department of Transportation
Division of Traffic Safety
3215 Executive Park Drive / P.O. Box 19245 / Springfield, Illinois / 62794-9245



November 5, 2008

Dear Mayor/Village President:

In 2007, motor vehicle crashes killed 1,248 people in Illinois. Of those deaths, 434 were crashes involving a driver impaired by alcohol. Unfortunately, December is traditionally one of the most deadly times of the year for driving because of all the holiday celebrations. We are inviting you to join Illinois in proclaiming December as National Drunk and Drugged Driving (3-D) Prevention Month. Educating the citizens, businesses and schools in your community on the dangers of impaired driving and in promoting safe and healthy behavior is vital to all.

Attached is a sample proclamation for your use. Also attached is a sample news release for media outlets in your area. Impaired driving is a public safety menace and we thank you for joining us in the continued effort to reduce alcohol-related motor vehicle fatalities and injuries, not only during the holiday season but throughout the year. If you have questions or concerns, or if you would like the enclosed documents in electronic format, please contact Shannon Alderman at 217/557-6670 or by e-mail at shannon.alderman@illinois.gov.

We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael R. Stout".

Michael R. Stout
Director

Attachments (2)

080709

WHEREAS, motor vehicle crashes killed 1,248 people in Illinois during 2007; and

WHEREAS, 434 of those deaths involved a driver impaired by alcohol; and

WHEREAS, the December holiday season is traditionally one of the most deadly times of the year for impaired driving; and

WHEREAS, for thousands of families across the state and the nation, holidays are a time to remember loved ones lost; and

WHEREAS, organizations across the state and the nation are joined with the You Drink & Drive. You Lose and other campaigns that foster public awareness of the dangers of impaired driving and anti-impaired driving law enforcement efforts; and

WHEREAS, the community of _____ is proud to partner with the Illinois Department of Transportation's Division of Traffic Safety and other traffic safety groups in that effort to make our roads and streets safer;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, _____ do hereby proclaim December 2008 as Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month in _____ and do hereby call upon all citizens, government, agencies, business leaders, hospitals and health care providers, schools, and public and private institutions to promote awareness of the impaired driving problem, to support programs and policies to reduce the incidence of impaired driving, and to promote safer and healthier behaviors regarding the use of alcohol and other drugs this December holiday season and throughout the year.

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(Your City/Town/Village Letterhead)



Designate a Sober Driver.

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date

For Information Contact:

Name

Phone Number

E-mail

(Your City/Town/Village) Joins State Officials in Proclaiming December Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month

Encourage citizens of (Your City/Town/Village) to send message that impaired driving is unacceptable

(Your City, Your State) – Impaired driving is one of America's deadliest crimes. In 2007 in America, 12,998 people died in highway crashes involving an alcohol-impaired driver – nearly 32 percent of all motor vehicle crash fatalities. Here in Illinois in 2007, 434 people lost their lives in impaired driving crashes, 34.7 percent of the fatalities on Illinois roads.

That's why **(Your City/Town/Village)** announced today they will be joining Governor Rod R. Blagojevich and hundreds of other communities throughout Illinois in proclaiming December Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month.

"(Your City/Town/Village) is committed to preventing death and injury by stopping impaired driving," said **(name of Mayor/Village President)**.

"Everyone has a responsibility to not drive impaired and a right to drive on roads free of impaired drivers," **(name of Mayor/Village President)** continued. "We all play a vital role in preventing impaired driving and we can all help by sending a strong message to family and friends that impaired driving is not acceptable."

(more)

NATIONAL DRUNK AND DRUGGED DRIVING (3D) PREVENTION MONTH
DECEMBER 2008

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