



City of Evansville Police Department Media Release



For Immediate Release:

August 14, 2018 10:00 am

For More Information Contact:

Chief Scott McElroy
608-882-2299

Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over initiative August 17 through September 3.

To deter impaired driving, the Evansville Police Department is participating in 'Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over' initiative August 17 through September 3

The City of Evansville Police Department will join hundreds of law enforcement agencies across Wisconsin to combat impaired driving during the annual "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" initiative from August 17 through Labor Day on September 3. Last year in Wisconsin, alcohol-related crashes resulted in 161 deaths and more than 3,000 injuries.

"During the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over initiative, our officers will patrol in greater numbers and for longer hours to help prevent impaired drivers from killing or injuring themselves or someone else."

While alcohol-impaired drivers remain a significant problem, a growing concern is drugged driving - people whose ability to safely operate a motor vehicle is compromised by legal or illegal drugs including prescription and over-the-counter medications. To help combat the problem:

- Nearly 3,800 Wisconsin law enforcement officers have been trained in Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) to help detect and remove impaired drivers from the roadways
- Wisconsin has 276 Drug Recognition Experts - among the most in the nation. Evansville PD has their very own Drug Recognition Expert.
- There are 25 multi-jurisdictional, high-visibility OWI enforcement task forces operating throughout the year across the state.

Rather than risk an OWI arrest or crash, the Evansville Police Department urges drivers to follow these common-sense suggestions:

Report impaired drivers to law enforcement by calling 911. Provide as much detail as possible on the driver, vehicle, and location.

If you plan to celebrate, identify a sober designated driver. Never allow someone else to get behind the wheel impaired.

Download the free "Drive Sober" mobile app from the WisDOT website. The app includes a "find a ride" feature to help locate mass transit and taxi services

Some taverns and restaurants have programs to provide patrons a safe ride home. Visit www.tlw.org/ and click on Safe Ride

"Please travel safely and responsibly," From all of us at the Evansville Police Department.