



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Law Enforcement Cracking Down On Impaired Drivers This Fourth of July

MIAMI, Fla., June 26, 2012 – Most Americans may not realize it, but the Fourth of July is one of the deadliest holidays of the year due to alcohol-impaired driving crashes.

That's why this Fourth of July **local police departments** are stepping up enforcement efforts as part of the ongoing "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" enforcement crackdown to catch and arrest impaired drivers who put themselves and others at risk.

Impaired-driving crashes killed more than 10,000 people in 2010, accounting for 31 percent of all traffic-related fatalities in the United States. That's an average of one alcohol-impaired-driving fatality every 51 minutes.



But the percentage of fatalities from impaired driving spike around the Fourth of July. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 392 people were killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes during the Fourth of July holiday in 2010 *(6:00pm July 2- 5:59am July 6.)*

The proportion of alcohol impairment among drivers involved in fatal crashes in 2010 was almost five times higher at night (6pm to 5:59am) than during the day (6am to 5:59pm) for the July 4th 2010 holiday period *(6:00pm July 2 - 5:59am July 6.)* In fact, more than 80 percent of alcohol-impaired driving fatalities took place at nighttime (6 p.m. to 5:59 a.m.)

MDX recommends these simple tips for a safe Fourth of July:

- Plan a safe way home before the fun begins;
- Before drinking, designate a sober driver;
- If you're impaired, use a taxi, call a sober friend or family member, or use public transportation;
- If you happen to see a drunk driver on the road, don't hesitate to contact **the local police department**;
- And remember, "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over." If you know someone who is about to drive or ride while impaired, take their keys and help them make other arrangements to get to where they are going safely.
- For more information, please visit www.nhtsa.gov/drivesober.

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About MDX



The Miami-Dade Expressway Authority (MDX) is a public entity and agency of the state, created in 1994 by the Board of County Commissioners of Miami-Dade County. MDX's Governing Board is comprised of 13 volunteer members appointed either by the Board of County Commissioners and the Governor of the State of Florida. MDX operates and maintains five expressways: SR 112/Airport Expressway, SR 836/Dolphin Expressway, SR 874/Don Shula Expressway, SR 878/Snapper Creek Expressway, and SR 924/Gratigny Parkway. MDX is funded almost entirely by toll revenue and is dedicated to moving Miami-Dade County forward making your commute safer and more efficient. For more information on MDX, please visit www.mdxway.com.