MEDIA RELEASE

Joint Memorial Day Weekend DUII Mission Starts Friday

May 27, 2021

On Friday, May 28, 2021, law enforcement officers from several local agencies will join forces for a targeted DUII enforcement mission along major roadways in Washington County. National statistics show an increase in the number of traffic fatalities, including a higher death rate during holiday weekends like Memorial Day. This two-day mission is designed to educate and deter people from getting behind the wheel while impaired and to take enforcement against impaired drivers.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), about 28 people in the United States die in drunk-driving crashes – that's one person every 52 minutes. In 2019, these deaths reached the lowest percentage since 1982 when NHTSA started reporting alcohol data, but more than 10,000 people still lost their lives. These deaths were all preventable.

On Friday and Saturday, deputies, troopers, and officers will saturate the area to focus on drivers impaired by alcohol, drugs, or any controlled substances. Officers trained as drug recognition experts

will be on scene to evaluate drivers who are under the influence of controlled substances, such as marijuana.

The following agencies are scheduled to participate:

- Beaverton Police Department
- Forest Grove Police Department
- Hillsboro Police Department
- Sherwood Police Department
- Oregon State Police
- Washington County Sheriff's Office















The agencies will be supported by dispatchers from the <u>Washington County Consolidated</u> <u>Communications Agency</u> (WCCCA).

If you decide to celebrate the holiday weekend with alcohol or drugs, please be safe and avoid getting behind the wheel. Make plans beforehand to get a ride from a sober friend, use public transportation, call a taxi, or use a ridesharing service.



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