



**2020 JULY 4TH DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER CAMPAIGN  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 06/15/2020**

**MAINTAIN YOUR INDEPENDENCE THIS INDEPENDENCE DAY:  
*DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER***

This Independence Day, law enforcement in Garland County is participating in the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over enforcement campaign. During the holiday weekend, law enforcement will work to put an end to drunk driving. In support of law enforcement's dedication to protecting the lives of residents in their communities, you'll see increased enforcement on the roads with zero tolerance for those who drive impaired during June 26<sup>th</sup>, July 5, 2020

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, drunk driving accounted for 29% (10,511) of motor vehicle traffic deaths in 2018. With Fourth of July festivities wrapping up in the evening or late at night, more cars will be on the roads at night. In 2018 alone, 193 people died in motor vehicle traffic crashes over the July 4th holiday period (6 p.m. July 3 to 5:59 a.m. July 5). Forty percent (78) of those fatalities occurred in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes. This compares to 2017 when 38% of the July 4 holiday period fatalities occurred in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes.

"It's a shame we have to keep repeating ourselves, but the message remains the same: Drunk driving is deadly and illegal, and it's illegal in every state in this country," said Deputy Courtney Kizer. "We want our community to stay safe, so make no mistake: If you are caught drinking and driving, you will be pulled over and arrested. Driving under the influence of any substance will land you a DUI."

This Fourth of July, The Garland County Sheriff's Office and NHTSA urge drivers to designate a sober driver before heading out for the day. If you plan on drinking, plan on not driving.

**The Garland County Sheriff's Office** recommends these safe alternatives to drinking and driving:

- Remember that it is never okay to drink and drive. Even if you've had only one alcoholic beverage, designate a sober driver or plan to use public transportation or a ride sharing service to get home safely.
- If available, use a program such as UBER
- If you see a drunk driver on the road, contact The Garland County Sheriff's Office.
- Do you have a friend who is about to drink and drive? Take the keys away and make arrangements to get your friend home safely.

This Fourth of July, commit to only driving 100-percent sober. Don't lose your independence on Independence Day, and don't be a deadly risk to yourself and other innocent people. Remember: *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*.

For more information on impaired driving, visit <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/drunk-driving/drive-sober-or-get-pulled-over/4th-july>.

###