



*****For Immediate Release*****

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Holiday Emphasis Squad Deployment

Southwest Washington — “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” is the message the Washington State Patrol (WSP) is sending this holiday season. Beginning next Wednesday, Southwest Washington residents will see an increased presence of troopers on area freeways and state routes. In an effort to eliminate impaired-driving collisions, the WSP has created this specialized squad to remove impaired drivers from our roadways.

It only takes a few minutes to make a responsible decision that may prevent a tragedy that will result in life-lasting impacts. It is important to remember this, in Washington State, impaired driving is defined as:

- Driving while impaired by alcohol
- Driving under the influence of drugs, including marijuana, with a THC blood concentration of 5.00ng
- Driving with a blood alcohol concentration of .08% or higher

The squad will be deployed in Clark, Cowlitz, and Lewis Counties. Six troopers will be stationed in Clark County, while four others will be deployed in Cowlitz and Lewis Counties. The troopers will focus on dangerous driving behaviors that cause serious injury and fatality collisions such as aggressive driving, speed, unrestrained occupants, and impaired driving. The squad will be in place from November 21, 2017 – January 3, 2018.

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