DATE/ TIME OF RELEASE: December 27, 2017 at 10:15 am.

NATURE OF STORY: Lane County Sheriff’s Deputies Participate in Saturation Patrols with a Focus on DUII Enforcement

DETAILS:

During this Christmas/ New Year’s holiday, Lane County Sheriff’s deputies are participating in the Nation-Wide DUII saturation patrols focusing on reducing impaired driving and related vehicle crashes.

The Lane County Sheriff’s Office (LCSO) received allocated funding from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Oregon State Sheriffs’ Association to provide for overtime patrols with a focus on Traffic and Life Safety emphasizing Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUII) enforcement. Through the grant funding, LCSO deputies will be conducting overtime patrols in the Lane County area through January 1st. This saturation is in conjunction with a nation-wide effort to reduce drunk and impaired driving.

Preliminary crash data supplied by ODOT reports that there were 16 alcohol-involved crashes in Lane County in December of 2016. Of those 16 crashes, there were 2 fatalities and 25 injuries.

The Lane County Sheriff’s Office wants to remind motorists to drive safely during the typically hazardous conditions this time of year, drive sober, and utilize designated drivers, taxis or other public transportation if you choose to drink. With the passage of Oregon’s marijuana laws, this is also a reminder of the impairment marijuana can have on motorists, impacting their ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUII) applies to drivers under the influence of marijuana, as it does with alcohol.