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NATURE OF STORY: Lane County Sheriff’s Office to Participate in DUII Saturation Patrols

DETAILS:

Beginning this week through January 1, 2019, Lane County Sheriff’s Office (LCSO) deputies are participating in saturation patrols as part of a nationwide effort focused on reducing impaired driving and related vehicle crashes.

The Sheriff’s Office receives special allocated funding from the Oregon Department of Transportation 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.

The U.S. Department of Transportation reports that in 2016, 781 people lost their lives in alcohol related crashes in the month of December in the United States. Lane County continues to rank in the top three for the number of traffic crash fatalities as compared to other counties in Oregon. As we enter into this holiday season when several community members may be traveling to see family and friends, the Sheriff’s Office is hopeful that the increased law enforcement presence on our roadways will result in a decrease of impaired driving crashes and fatalities.

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 creates in drivers, 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.

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