DATE/ TIME OF RELEASE: 1/1/2019    7:30 am

NATURE OF STORY: Saturation Patrols with a Focus on DUII Enforcement
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DETAILS:

Lane County Sheriff's deputies have been participating in the Nation-Wide DUII saturation patrols focused on reducing impaired driving and related vehicle crashes through the holidays. These overtime patrols are funded through grants from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Oregon State Sheriffs’ Association and will go through today, January 1, 2019. This saturation is in conjunction with a nation-wide effort to reduce drunk and impaired driving.

There were 16 alcohol-involved crashes in Lane County in December of 2016. Of those 16 crashes, there were 2 fatalities and 25 injuries. Crash data for the 2018 holiday season is still being put together.

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.

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