



News Release

November 25, 2008

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UPCOMING SOBRIETY CHECKPOINTS & DUI Patrols

The Hanover County Sheriff's Office will be conducting *Sobriety Checkpoints* on **Wednesday, November 26th, Friday, December 5th and Friday, December 12th, 2008**. The exact times and locations are not being released. Officers will stop all vehicles passing through the checkpoint. Each driver will be advised of the purpose of the checkpoint and requested to present their drivers' license. Any driver suspected of operating a vehicle while under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be directed to a safe area off of the roadway for further observation and possible testing for intoxication.

The Hanover County Sheriff's Office will also be conducting a series of *DUI Patrols* throughout Hanover during the **Holiday Season**. The exact times and locations are also not being released.

Unfortunately the holidays are linked to one of the deadliest times of the year on the Commonwealth's highways. Statistics from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles indicate there is an increase in alcohol-related traffic crashes and fatalities during the holidays. Although some head way has been made in reducing the number of intoxicated drivers, an increase in the death rate and the average blood alcohol content of tested drunk drivers indicates significantly more progress is needed.

The maximum penalty in Virginia for the first conviction of driving under the influence is 12 months in jail, a \$2500 fine and a 12 – month suspension of driving privileges.

Hanover County Traffic Data					
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Vehicle Crashes	1402	1453	1454	1324	1425
Alcohol Related Crashes	116	141	140	147	114
Alcohol Related Crashes With Injuries	54	64	59	77	54
Persons Injured In Alcohol Related Crashes	73	76	83	109	73
Fatality Crashes	11	13	7	11	17
Alcohol Related Fatalities	1	4	3	3	2
DUI Arrests	277	297	337	294	292

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