Avoid the 11
Merced County

PRESS RELEASE

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WINTER HOLIDAY AVOID DUI CAMPAIGN – FINAL REPORT

The 2013/14 Winter Holiday DUI Mobilization crackdown on drinking drivers has ended and resulted in a significant number of DUI arrests from the Sobriety Checkpoints, Special Saturation Patrols and routine patrol in the Merced County "Avoid the 11" DUI Campaign for the past 20 days.

From 12:01 AM Friday December 13th, through Midnight Wednesday January 1, 2014, preliminary statistics are showing over 75 DUI arrests by officers representing eleven Merced County law enforcement agencies. This same preliminary data shows no deaths from collisions resulting from drunk driving.

(**NOTE: These numbers are only provisional with some agencies yet to report or Coroner reports pending**)

Law enforcement officials will be conducting more Avoid DUI operations throughout the county and region next during Super Bowl Sunday in February and then again for local St Patrick's Day Festivities in March. Police, Sheriff and the CHP encourage all motorists to help law enforcement every day: Report Drunk Drivers – Call 9-1-1 anytime you encounter an impaired driver.

DUI Checkpoints, along with regularly scheduled high visibility DUI enforcement, are proven strategies with the goal of removing impaired drivers from the road and heightening awareness of the dangers of driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), sobriety checkpoint programs can yield considerable cost savings: $6 for every $1 spent. Multiple DUI Campaigns are planned in 2014.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

REPORT DRUNK DRIVERS | CALL 911

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