

MERCED POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cinco de Mayo is here. Please celebrate responsibly.

For many people across the country, Cinco de Mayo (May 5) is a time for fun and celebrations that may involve drinking. The holiday, which happens to fall on a Sunday this year, is a reminder to the public to celebrate responsibly and not drive impaired.

This May 5th, the Merced Police Department will have additional officers on patrol ready to stop and arrest drivers suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

“We understand the importance of this day to many people, but it does not give you an excuse to drink and drive,” Merced Police Department Sergeant Dan Dabney said. “There are many options to get home safely that don’t involve you driving.”

The Merced Police Department encourages everyone to plan ahead and use a designated sober driver, ride-share or public transportation. The Merced Police Department also wants to remind everyone that a “DUI Doesn’t Just Mean Booze.” Prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications and marijuana can all be impairing, especially in combination with alcohol or other drugs.

Funding for Cinco de Mayo DUI enforcement is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



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