



Beaverton Police Department

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NEWS RELEASE

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Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over

The Fourth of July is a favorite holiday for many Americans. Families and friends gather and celebrate our country with food, parades, parties, and fireworks. For many people, the celebration includes alcohol and now possibly marijuana, but the holiday quickly goes from festive to fatal when people choose to drive impaired.

To crack down on impaired driving this Fourth of July weekend, the Beaverton Police Department will be out in full force, aggressively targeting those who put lives in danger.

This Fourth of July holiday, you can show your patriotism by helping to make Beaverton roads safer for everyone. Law enforcement is not messing around this Independence Day: if you're caught driving impaired, you will be arrested. Keep in mind that aside from putting your life and the lives of others at risk, driving impaired can also lead to serious consequences. A DUII arrest can mean time in jail, loss of your license, and steep financial expenses; the average DUII costs about \$10,000.

In 2014, over the 4th of July holiday (6 p.m. July 3rd to 5:59 a.m. July 7th), 164 people were killed in crashes involving at least one driver or motorcycle operator with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher. Those preventable deaths make up 41% of the 397 people killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes over the 4th of July period

The Beaverton Police recommend these simple tips to prevent impaired driving:

- Plan a safe way home before the fun begins.
- Before drinking or using marijuana, designate a non-impaired driver.
- If you're impaired, use a taxi, call a friend or family member, or use public transportation.
- If you happen to see an impaired driver on the road, don't hesitate to contact the Beaverton Police by calling 911.
- If you know someone who is about to drive while impaired, take their keys and help them make other arrangements to get to where they are going safely.

If you are stopped and believed to be impaired because of Marijuana, the Beaverton Police Department has officers who will evaluate you for impairment. These officers are Drug Recognition Experts (DRE) and have received specialty training on how to evaluate individuals who are impaired by drugs including marijuana.

Please make this Fourth of July one to remember for fun and not the tragedy of impaired driving.

##BPD##

