



Elk Grove Police Department

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ELK GROVE POLICE TO COMBAT DUI DEATHS AND INJURIES THROUGH TRAFFIC SAFETY PROGRAM

ELK GROVE, CA – The Elk Grove Police Department has been awarded a new traffic safety grant for a year-long anti-DUI program aimed at preventing deaths and injuries on our roadways.

Additional enforcement measures in place to combat impaired driving are coming as a result of a recent \$245,000.00 grant awarded by the California Office of Traffic Safety to Elk Grove. The Elk Grove Police Department is dedicated to keeping our streets safe through both enforcement and education.

“The Elk Grove Police Department is committed to making sure that our streets remain free of impaired drivers,” said Elk Grove Police Chief Robert Lehner. “This grant will ensure that our department continues to take a proactive role in locating and identifying those drivers who choose to drive impaired.”

The special DUI Enforcement and Awareness grant is to assist in efforts to reduce the number of persons killed and injured in alcohol and other drug related collisions in the community. The grant activities will specifically target impaired driving offenders as well as educate the public on the dangers of impaired driving. This will be done through the use of sobriety / driver’s license checkpoints, saturation patrols, warrant service operations, stakeouts for repeat DUI offenders and educational programs.

Drunk driving is one of America’s deadliest crimes. In 2009, over 10,839 people died in highway crashes involving a driver or motorcycle operator with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher. California data for 2009 shows that 950 died in Alcohol Impaired Collisions, a 7.6 percent reduction in deaths from 2008.

“Everyone in California should be heartened with these figures,” said Christopher J. Murphy, Director of the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS). “But as encouraging as this is, we can’t let up on the efforts to promote and enforce traffic safety. Far too many are still losing their lives or being severely injured on our roadways.”

Funding for this program is from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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