SUBJECT:  Halloween Impaired Driving Campaign  
CR#  N/A  
DATE OF INCIDENT:  Thursday, October 25th through Sunday, November 4th, 2012  
DATE OF RELEASE:  Wednesday, October 25th, 2012  
NARRATIVE:

The University of Florida Police Department (UFPD) will continue its participation with the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) and the National Center for DWI Courts annual anti-drunk driving campaign: "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.” The nationwide crackdown comes as startling new NHTSA statistics show 70 percent of deaths in drunken driving crashes in 2010 involved drivers with blood alcohol levels that were nearly twice the .08 legal limits.

As part of its continuing participation efforts, the UFPD will be conducting the Halloween Impaired Driving Campaign that will include saturation patrols from October 25, 2012 through November 4, 2012. The saturation patrols will take place in an effort to reduce the number of alcohol-related crashes, fatalities, and injuries that occur in and around our campus community. Throughout this campaign, UFPD officers will take a proactive approach to traffic violation enforcement in general and DUI enforcement in particular.

New NHTSA research indicates the 10,228 alcohol-impaired fatalities in 2010 accounted for nearly one out of three highway deaths on U.S. roads – the equivalent of one death every 51 minutes. During the same time period, more than two thirds of drunk driving deaths (7,145 or 70%) involved drivers with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .15 or higher. Overall, the most frequently recorded BAC among drunk drivers involved in fatal crashes was .18 BAC.

"The latest numbers tell us people are not only making poor decisions and drinking and driving – they are getting deeply intoxicated before getting behind the wheel,” said NHTSA Administrator David L. Strickland. "The best way to keep our roadways safe is to ensure that law enforcement and other partners have the information they need to tackle the problem head on”.

Remember, Keep the Gator Nation alive, don’t drink and drive!
For questions regarding information contained in this release, please contact Major Brad Barber at (352) 273-3301, or after hours at (352) 392-1111 (# UFPD (#8373)). I can also be reached via e-mail at wbarber@ufl.edu or see the UFPD webpage at http://www.police.ufl.edu/

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