



YOLO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

140 TONY DIAZ DRIVE, WOODLAND, CA 95776

(530) 668-5280

FAX (530) 668-5238

(916) 375-6493

E.G. Prieto
Sheriff ~ Coroner

Tom A. Lopez
Undersheriff

Administration
(530) 668-5280
Finance
Personnel
Planning & Research

Cameron Training Facility
(530) 668-5206
Commissary
Inmate Education
Inmate Programs
Inmate Training

Coroner's Section
(530) 668-5292

Field Operations
(530) 668-5280
Civil
Community Resources
Crime Prevention
Department Training
Investigations
Marine Patrol
Patrol
Search & Rescue
Aero Squadron
Cadets
Posse Reserves
STARS

Animal Services
(530) 668-5287

Leinberger Detention
(530) 668-5254
Corrections
Inmate Work Programs

Monroe Detention
(530) 668-5245
Corrections
Court Services
Foods Services
Records
Transportation

Press Release

Subject: Yolo County Sheriff calls for safety this New Years Eve; checkpoints and extra patrol planned

Contact: Mark Persons, Public Information, 530.406.5172

Date: December 27, 2013

New Years Eve marks the annual tradition of bidding farewell to the past year and ringing in the New Year with celebrations that often include alcohol. All too often, people drive after they have too much to drink.

"The holidays are about celebrating with family and friends, but it's important that you celebrate safely," said Yolo County Sheriff Ed Prieto.

Prieto said extra Yolo County Sheriff's patrols will be on the lookout for drunk drivers this New Years Eve, as well as Avoid the 8 deployments (Yolo County Multi-Agency DUI Task Force) which will also be part of a Yolo County region wide crackdown through New Year's Day. Funding for Avoid the 8 is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

"Motorists who plan on being on the road can do their part to ensure a safe holiday by participating in a designated driver program. You can help reduce holiday traffic accidents by having a plan before for the New Years Eve party starts. Promote the designated driver program, respect each designated driver, and do not let friends drive drunk," stated Prieto.

Prieto cautioned that being sober on New Year's Eve doesn't guarantee that the other driver is. There is no way to predict when an alcohol-related accident will happen. However, there are some things that drivers can do to reduce their chances of being injured and more easily recognize a potentially dangerous situation.

Warning Signs of an Intoxicated Driver:

- . Driver traveling ten miles per hour below the posted speed limit

"Service Without Limitations"

- . Driver suddenly stops for no apparent reason
- . Traveling too closely to other vehicles
- . Braking erratically
- . Inconsistent use of turn signals
- . Driving without turning headlights on
- . Drifting in a straight line at a slight angle to the roadway

To Protect Yourself:

- . Call your local law enforcement agency and report the driver: Take note of the driver's exact location and be prepared to give an accurate description of the car including make, model, color, and most important, the license plate number
- . Always wear your seatbelt
- . Do not follow a suspected intoxicated driver too closely because he or she may make sudden stops
- . Do not disregard any traffic signals in an attempt to keep the driver in sight
- . Do not compromise your own safety by getting overly involved with what the drunk driver is doing
- . If the driver stops, do not attempt to detain him or her