



EL SEGUNDO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Press Release

For Immediate Release

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DUI/CDL Checkpoint Planned for August 15, 2014

El Segundo, CA – The El Segundo Police Department will be conducting a DUI/Driver License Checkpoint on August 15, 2014, at an undisclosed location within the city limits between the hours of 8:00 PM – 4:00 AM.

The deterrent effect of DUI checkpoints is a proven resource in reducing the number of persons killed and injured in alcohol or drug involved crashes. Research shows that crashes involving alcohol drop by an average of 20 percent when well-publicized checkpoints are conducted often enough.

In California, this deadly crime led to 774 deaths because someone failed to designate a sober driver. Nationally, the latest data shows nearly 10,000 were killed by an impaired driver.

Officers will be contacting drivers passing through the checkpoint to observe any signs of alcohol and/or drug impairment. Officers will also check drivers for proper licensing and will strive to delay motorists only momentarily. When possible, specially trained officers will be available to evaluate those suspected of drug-impaired driving.

Recent statistics reveal that 30 percent of drivers in fatal crashes had one or more drugs in their systems. A study of those drivers revealed that more tested positive for drugs that can impair driving (14 percent), than alcohol (7.3 percent). Of the drugs detected, marijuana was the most prevalent at 7.4 percent.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), checkpoints have provided the most effective documented results of any of the DUI enforcement strategies, while also yielding considerable cost savings of \$6 for every \$1 spent. Nearly 90 percent of California drivers approve of DUI checkpoints.

Based on collision statistics and frequency of DUI arrests, DUI Checkpoints are placed in locations that have the greatest opportunity for achieving drunk and drugged driving deterrence. Locations are chosen with safety considerations for the officers and the public.

Drivers caught driving while impaired can expect the impact of a DUI arrest to include jail time, fines, fees, DUI classes and other expenses that can exceed \$10,000.

Funding for this checkpoint is provided to the El Segundo Police Department by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, reminding everyone to “Report a Drunk Driver – Call 9-1-1”.

MEDIA NOTES: To schedule an interview regarding the El Segundo traffic safety operation, please contact Lt. Dan Kim at 310-524-2267 or via email at dkim@elsegundo.org.

