

T O R R A N C E

Press Release

Police Department

Torrance Police Department DUI Checkpoint Nets 2 Arrests

The Police Department Traffic Unit conducted a DUI/Drivers License checkpoint on August 5, 2016, in the E/B lanes of the 5400 block of Torrance Blvd. between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 3:00 a.m. Checkpoints are placed in locations that have the greatest opportunity for achieving drunk and drugged driving deterrence and provide the greatest safety for officers and the public.

DUI/Drivers License checkpoints have been shown to lower DUI deaths and injuries. A major component of these checkpoints are the deterrent effects it has on those who might drive drunk or drugged impaired, bringing about more awareness and encouraging everyone to use sober designated drivers.

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. Ninety Percent of California drivers approve of checkpoints.

Throughout the evening, 1,670 vehicles passed through the checkpoint, which resulted in the following:

- 1,653 Vehicles Screened and drivers contacted
- 2 DUI-Alcohol impaired drivers arrested
- 5 Drivers cited for operating a vehicle while unlicensed
- 10 Drivers cited for operating a vehicle with a suspended/revoked license
- 4 Citations issued

Law Enforcement emphasizes the preventable nature of drunk driving reminding everyone that all it takes is a little planning ahead. Designate a sober driver or call a cab. But whatever you do, don't drink and drive. The California Office of Traffic Safety DDVIP (Designated Driver VIP) mobile app is now available for free download on iOS and Android devices. Launched last year, the new DDVIP app offers enhanced

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features, allowing users to “Map a Spot” with their current location to find DDVIP partnering establishments in their area or a “List of Spots” to search all participating bars and restaurants throughout California. Users will be offered free incentives at each bar to celebrate their life saving role. They can stay up-to-date with the latest from DDVIP and see what other users are saying via its social tab. Also through the app, for those who want to imbibe but also make it a point to plan ahead, users can easily order a sober ride from Uber, Lyft or Curb – all from one screen.

Drivers caught driving impaired can expect the impact of a DUI arrest to include jail time, fines, fees, DUI classes, other expenses that can exceed \$10,000 not to mention the embarrassment when friends and family find out.

The Torrance Police Department will be conducting another DUI/Drivers License Checkpoint in the near future in our ongoing commitment to lowering deaths and injuries upon our streets and highways.

The checkpoint was funded by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, reminding everyone to ‘Report Drunk Driver – Call 9-1-1’.

Lieutenant Kyle Goffney
Traffic and Special Events Division Commander

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