



NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
OC Sheriff Public Affairs, 714-904-7042

## OC Sheriff's Department Encourages Drivers to Go Safely During the Final Days of Summer

**San Juan Capistrano, Ca. (August 16, 2023):** As the summer travel season wraps up, The Orange County Sheriff's Department reminds drivers to stay safe and be responsible by never driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

"The community's well-being is our top priority, so we're asking that if you know you'll be out drinking to have a game plan for how to get home safely," Sergeant Kyle Ishii said. "There is never a good excuse for driving after drinking or using drugs that impair."

The Orange County Sheriff's Department asks residents to take the necessary precautions to protect yourself and your family by buckling up, avoiding distractions behind the wheel, following the speed limit, and not driving impaired.

To help keep our community safe, the Orange County Sheriff's Department will have additional officers on patrol Aug. 16 through Labor Day (Sept. 4) looking for drivers suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. The additional efforts to prevent impaired driving are part of a national enforcement campaign, *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*.

In addition to patrols, OCSD will hold a DUI Checkpoint on August 25, 2023 from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. at an undisclosed location within the city of San Juan Capistrano.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 13,384 people were killed in drunk-driving crashes in 2021 — that's one person every 39 minutes.

While drunk driving is a significant traffic safety problem, driving while impaired is not just from alcohol. Prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications and cannabis products may also impair. If you plan on drinking or taking medications with a driving warning label, let someone who is sober drive. If you see someone driving impaired, call 9-1-1.

Share your thoughts about impaired driving by participating in the Go Safely Movement, a call-to-action traffic safety survey from the California Office of Traffic Safety. Take the survey at [gosafelyca.org](https://gosafelyca.org).

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