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## **Make Sure Your Summer Doesn't End With a DUI**

*Labor Day DUI enforcement begins Aug. 19-Sept. 5*

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Summer may be winding down, but the fun and festivities are still underway. Law enforcement agencies throughout California and the nation will be stepping up DUI enforcement before and during the Labor Day holiday, running from Aug. 19 through Sept. 5. Although Labor Day signals the end of summer for most, it also indicates a sharp increase in impaired driving-related fatalities. The California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) reminds all motorists to plan ahead by designating a sober driver.

“Taking responsibility behind the wheel is incredibly important as people get together to celebrate the end of summer,” said OTS Director Rhonda Craft. “California will be stepping up enforcement during the holiday to ensure that those who choose to drive while impaired will be caught and arrested.”

In 2014, California recorded 882 alcohol involved deaths. During the 2014 Labor Day holiday weekend, 40 percent of the fatalities in traffic crashes involved drunk drivers, which was the highest percentage of the previous five years. Nighttime is the most dangerous time to be out on the roads. During the 2014 Labor Day holiday period, 83 percent of drunk-driving crash fatalities occurred between 6 p.m. and 5:59 a.m.

Driving impaired not only puts you at risk, it puts the lives of others in danger as well. Aside from the risk of killing yourself or someone else, it can lead to other serious consequences, including fines, fees, insurance hikes and other more. The average DUI can cost up to \$10,000, the loss of your license and even your job.

Before the holiday weekend arrives, be sure to download OTS' DDVIP app, a free mobile app aimed at rewarding sober designated drivers with perks and free or discounted offers at area bars and restaurants. Also, join us on Twitter at @OTS\_CA or “like” us at [www.facebook.com/CaliforniaOTS](http://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaOTS) and keep up with the latest traffic safety information. For more information on all OTS efforts, visit [www.OTS.ca.gov](http://www.OTS.ca.gov).

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