

Lake County Sheriff's Office



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**John D. Idleburg
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MEDIA RELEASE

St. Patrick's Day Traffic Safety Campaign

The Lake County Sheriff's Office will conduct additional traffic safety patrols on St. Patrick's Day weekend, March 15th through March 17th, to arrest impaired drivers and to encourage use of seat belts.

Sheriff John Idleburg said, "As we get out of the deep-freeze of winter and celebrate St. Patrick's Day, I remind you to plan ahead if your celebration includes alcohol. We see far too many tragedies occur on our roadways because someone made the selfish decision to drive intoxicated. We will have extra patrols during this popular drinking weekend to arrest intoxicated drivers."

If you're hosting a St. Patrick's Day party:

- Remember, you can be held liable if someone you serve is involved in an impaired driving crash.
- Make sure your guests designate a sober driver in advance or help arrange ride-sharing with sober drivers.
- Serve plenty of food and non-alcoholic beverages.
- Download a ride-sharing app on your phone to help partygoers and keep phone numbers for local cab companies handy.
- Take keys away from anyone who is trying to drive impaired.

If you're going out for St. Patrick's Day:

- Designate a sober driver ahead of time and give that person your keys.
- If you don't have a designated driver, call a cab, use ride-sharing, have a sober friend or family member pick you up, or stay where you are and sleep it off.
- Never let a friend leave your sight if you think they're about to drive impaired.
- Buckle up – it's your best defense in a crash.

The St. Patrick's Day enforcement campaign is part of the Illinois "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" and "Click It or Ticket" programs supported through federal funds administered by IDOT.

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