



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Sandra Spagnoli

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MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, March 7, 2019

St. Patrick's Day Safety

BHPD is Working to Keep Roadways Safe this St. Patrick's Day
Please Celebrate Responsibly: Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving

Beverly Hills, Calif. — St. Patrick's Day is celebrated by millions across the country, often culminating in parties where drinking is involved. Sadly, this leads to tragedies on our roadways because of drivers who choose to leave parties impaired.

This St. Patrick's Day (Sunday, March 17), The Beverly Hills Police Department will hold a DUI/driver's license checkpoint at an undisclosed location within the city limits.

According to data from the California Highway Patrol (CHP), one person was killed and 48 others were injured in DUI crashes on St. Patrick's Day last year. In 2017, 59 people were killed nationwide in drunk-driving crashes over the St. Patrick's Day holiday (March 16-March 18), accounting for 37 percent of all traffic deaths. Due to St. Patrick's Day becoming a dangerous holiday on our roads, The Beverly Hills Police Department encourages everyone to plan ahead and use a designated sober driver, ride-share or public transportation. Even one drink can be one too many.

"Don't even put yourself in a position where you need to ask whether you are okay to drive," Beverly Hills Police Department Lieutenant Trejo said. *"If you feel the slightest hint of a buzz, you should not be driving."* The Beverly Hills Police Department also wants to remind everyone that a **"DUI Doesn't Just Mean Booze."** Prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications and marijuana can all be impairing, especially in combination with alcohol or other drugs.

"We all know the dangers about driving impaired," Lieutenant Trejo said. *"Let's all be responsible and help each other get where we need to go safely."*

Funding for St. Patrick's Day DUI checkpoint is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



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