



NEWS RELEASE

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FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL RELEASES RESULTS FROM HOLIDAY ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGN

~ Patrol arrests more than 500 motorists for impaired driving ~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Col. John Czernis, director of the Florida Highway Patrol, today announced the preliminary enforcement results from the Patrol's participation in the nationwide *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.* campaign. During the 19-day heightened enforcement period, the Patrol beefed up its force by having troopers postpone administrative duties in favor of road patrols and adding reservists and auxiliary troopers to patrol duty.

Troopers issued nearly 47,000 traffic citations and made 537 arrests for Driving Under the Influence of alcohol or drugs. They cited more than 16,000 drivers for speeding and nearly 5,000 for failure to buckle up.

“During the campaign, our troopers focused on driving practices that put motorists at higher risk for a crash,” said Czernis. “Impaired driving is a dangerous behavior. These drivers not only put themselves in harm’s way, but they also increase risk for everyone around them. Motorists should always designate a sober driver if they plan to consume alcohol.”

The members of the Florida Highway Patrol would like to remind everyone that it is the law to Move Over when approaching any authorized emergency vehicle or wrecker displaying rotating or flashing lights stopped on the side of a roadway. Also, remember that *FHP (*347) dialed from you cell phone contacts FHP should you need to report an aggressive driver or require roadside assistance.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provides highway safety and security through excellence in service, education and enforcement. The Department is leading the way to a safer Florida through the efficient and professional execution of its core mission: the issuance of driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and operation of the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV and the services offered, visit www.flhsmv.gov.

Preliminary Enforcement Results:

Dec. 16, 2009 – Jan. 3, 2010

Total Citations = 46,931

DUI Arrests = 537

Speeding Citations = 16,213

Safety Belt Citations = 4,531

Motorist Assists = 4,099

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