

Media Advisory – Dec. 15, 2009

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County DUI Victim Panel to promote safe driving

Volunteers from the Snohomish County DUI Victim Panel and members of the Snohomish County DUI Task Force will conduct a peaceful demonstration Saturday, Dec. 19, to promote traffic safety with an emphasis on preventing impaired driving.

From 10 a.m. until noon, at the Smokey Point Rest Area, DUI enforcement advocates will distribute information on safe driving and the problems associated with impaired driving including tragic and needless deaths.

The Snohomish County DUI Task Force also is asking Snohomish County business owners with reader boards to use them to remind drivers not to drive under the influence this holiday season.

“Business owners play a positive role in our community, and we depend on them to help raise awareness of issues such as DUI awareness,” said County Executive Aaron Reardon. “We want people to think before they drink and to make plans for designated drivers.”

The Task Force will select three businesses to recognize for creativity in their signs, and pictures of participating businesses will be posted on the County's DUI & Target Zero Task Force Web site.

From 2004 to 2008, Snohomish County has averaged 20 deaths per year involving impaired drivers. Three out of five impaired drivers involved in fatal crashes were speeding and half of impaired passenger vehicle drivers involved in a fatal crash were not wearing a seat belt.

For more information or to submit a photo of a reader board with a "Don't Drink and Drive" traffic safety message, email Tracy McMillan at Tracy.McMillan@snoco.org. Include your name, business name, address and phone number.

For information on the Dec. 19 event, contact Jan Schemenauer, DUI Victim Panel Coordinator, at 425-388-7269 or janice.schemenauer@co.snohomish.wa.us.

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