

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | June 29, 2020

Planned Enforcements for Walsh and Grand Forks Counties this Holiday Weekend

NARRATIVE: The North Dakota Highway Patrol will conduct a sobriety checkpoint at a predetermined location in Walsh County on Friday, July 3 beginning at 8 pm. Saturation patrols to remove impaired drivers from the roads will follow the checkpoint. Throughout the day on July 4, saturation patrols will be conducted in both Walsh and Grand Forks Counties.

Impaired driving and impaired driving related motor vehicle crashes continue to be a major threat to the safety of the motoring public throughout North Dakota. Through June 19 of this year, there have been 34 fatal crashes on North Dakota roads resulting in 34 fatalities. Ten of these fatal crashes, or 29.4.0%, involved a driver whose blood alcohol content was over the legal limit of .08%.

Sgt. Ryan Panasuk stated, "By working together, and choosing to designate a sober driver or call for a sober ride, we can celebrate this holiday safely and all make it home to our loved ones."

The North Dakota Highway Patrol is committed to the Vision Zero strategy which aims to establish a culture of personal responsibility where motor vehicle fatalities and serious injuries are recognized as preventable. The strategy encourages all motorists to take personal responsibility for their safety and the safety of others on the road by driving sober, wearing seatbelts, and driving distraction-free.

Results from these planned enforcements will be released early next week.

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