

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | September 28, 2020

DUI CHECKPOINT and SATURATION PATROL STUTSMAN COUNTY **Update**

NARRATIVE: On Friday, September 25, the North Dakota Highway Patrol conducted a sobriety checkpoint in Stutsman County. During the event 110 vehicles passed through the checkpoint with one driver being arrested for driving under the influence. The patrol continued with saturation patrols through Sunday morning. The saturation patrols resulted in one driver being arrested for impaired driving and another driver was arrested for drug charges. The North Dakota Highway is committed to taking impaired drivers and drugs off North Dakota roadways.

NARRATIVE: On Friday, Sept. 25, the North Dakota Highway Patrol and Stutsman County Sheriff's Office will conduct a DUI checkpoint at a predetermined location in Stutsman County. Following the checkpoint on Friday and continuing Saturday, Sept. 26, the North Dakota Highway Patrol will conduct saturation patrols in the county.

Impaired driving and impaired driving related motor vehicle crashes are a major threat to the safety of those traveling on North Dakota's roadways. Through Sept. 14 of this year, there have been 64 fatal crashes on North Dakota roads resulting in 66 fatalities. Twenty-one of these fatalities, or 31.8%, involved a driver who tested positive for blood alcohol content.

The weekend's sobriety checkpoint and saturation events are part of the NDHP's ongoing efforts to maintain roadway safety by targeting specific times and locations to have a greater impact at reducing impaired driving.

Sgt. Evan Savageau stated, "These enforcement efforts influence drivers to not drink and drive or at least plan ahead and arrange for a safe ride home. Making the responsible choice saves not only your life but the lives of others on the road."

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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