

**NEWS RELEASE** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | June 26, 2023

## **Grand Forks Area Sobriety Checkpoint and Saturation Patrol**

### **RESULTS:**

The North Dakota Highway Patrol conducted a sobriety checkpoint from 10:00 PM until midnight on Friday, June 23, on US Highway 81B (North Washington Street), just north of the intersection of US Highway 2 (Gateway Drive), on southbound traffic. 91 vehicles traveled through the checkpoint. 5 vehicles were screened for impairment/violations, which resulted in one DUI arrest, two open container citations, and one wrong way driver citation.

The sobriety checkpoint scheduled in Grand Forks County for June 16 was cancelled due to unforeseen conflicts.

### **NARRATIVE:**

On Friday, June 23, the North Dakota Highway Patrol will conduct a sobriety checkpoint and saturation patrol in the Grand Forks area to remove impaired drivers from the road. In addition, saturation patrols will be conducted on Friday, June 23 and Saturday, June 24. The goal of these enforcement events is to remove the threat of impaired drivers and impaired driving-related motor vehicle crashes.

Through June 6, 2023, there have been 31 fatal crashes on North Dakota roads resulting in 35 deaths. Six of these fatalities were related to crashes involving alcohol.

Sergeant Christopher A. Schaefer, NDHP Northeast Region, stated, "Our aim is to ensure North Dakota roadways are safe for the motoring public. Crashes resulting from driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs are preventable and present an unnecessary risk to others."

He went on to say, "Make a plan before your first drink; for your safety and other roadway users, designate a sober driver or plan to use a ride sharing service to get home safely."

The North Dakota Highway Patrol is committed to Vision Zero, which aims to establish a culture of personal responsibility for personal safety and the safety of others on the road by driving sober, wearing seatbelts, driving distraction free, and sharing the road.

Results from this planned enforcement will be released within a week of the event.

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**For More Information Contact:**

**Sergeant Christopher A. Schaefer**, 701-328-2447, [cschaefer@nd.gov](mailto:cschaefer@nd.gov)