

NEWS RELEASE | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | September 22, 2024

SOUTHWEST REGION TO CONDUCT ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS

****UPDATE****

UPDATE: On Friday, September 20th, 2024, the North Dakota Highway Patrol and Burleigh County Sheriff's Office conducted a Sobriety Checkpoint on ND1804 near mile marker 75.5, between Yegan Rd. and Burleigh Avenue. The checkpoint took place from 10:00 pm to midnight. Drivers in both the north and southbound lanes were screened for impairment.

Two hundred (200) vehicles passed through the checkpoint. Eighteen drivers had been consuming alcoholic beverages and were tested for impairment. One driver was arrested for DUI.

Following the checkpoint, Troopers from the North Dakota Highway Patrol conducted a saturation patrol in the Bismarck/Mandan area. Two people were arrested for DUI, one of which was charged with refusal of a chemical test, one arrest for possession of psilocybin mushrooms, and one arrest for driving with a suspended license. Additionally, seven warnings and one citation were issued during the saturation patrol.

NARRATIVE: The North Dakota Highway Patrol (NDHP) and Burleigh County Sheriff's Office will be conducting a Sobriety Checkpoint at a predetermined location in Burleigh County on Friday, September 20. In conjunction with the checkpoint, saturation patrols will occur September 20 in Burleigh County. The goal of these enforcement operations is to increase public safety by targeting impaired drivers and reducing the number of alcohol-related crashes on our roadways.

Through September 7 of this year, there have been sixty-four fatalities in 58 crashes on North Dakota roadways; 15.6% of the crashes involved alcohol.

NDHP Southwest Regional Sgt. Jeremiah Bohn emphasized the importance of these enforcements to keep roadways safe, "Driving under the influence is a life-threatening choice that puts everyone on the road at risk. The consequences of impaired driving can be

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devastating and far-reaching. Law enforcement wants all motorists to make the responsible choice and never drive when impaired."

As part of the Vision Zero strategy, the North Dakota Highway Patrol reminds all motorists, motorcycle drivers, OHV drivers, and bicyclists to share the road; ensure all occupants are wearing a seatbelt; drive distraction-free; and always make the responsible choice to drive sober. Results from this planned enforcement will be released the week following the enforcement events.

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