

**NEWS RELEASE** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | September 26, 2024

## **NORTHEAST REGION TO CONDUCT ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS-UPDATE**

**UPDATE:** Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Sept. 6-7 enforcements referenced below were not conducted. The rescheduled events will be held Saturday, Oct. 5 in Grand Forks County. NDHP will be conducting a Sobriety Checkpoint on Oct. 5. The checkpoint will be followed by saturation patrols that evening. Results will be sent out the week following the event.

**NARRATIVE:** The North Dakota Highway Patrol (NDHP) and Grand Forks County Sheriff's Office will be conducting a Sobriety Checkpoint at a predetermined location in Grand Forks County on Saturday, September 7. In conjunction with the checkpoint, saturation patrols will occur Friday, September 6, and Saturday, September 7 throughout Grand Forks County. These enforcement operations aim to increase public safety by targeting impaired drivers and reducing the number of alcohol-related crashes on our roadways.

NDHP Northeast Regional Sgt. Matthew Johnson emphasized the importance of these enforcements, "Impaired driving is a serious problem that puts all roadway users at risk. Our goal is to ensure that everyone can safely come together and enjoy community events such as weekend college football games. We will plan these enforcement events to encourage responsible choices and deter impaired driving."

Through August 22 of this year, there have been fifty-seven fatalities in 53 crashes on North Dakota roadways; nearly 16% of the crashes involved alcohol.

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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