

**NEWS RELEASE** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | December 9, 2019

## **Year-End High Visibility Enforcement**

**NARRATIVE:** Ninety-two people have lost their lives in traffic crashes on North Dakota's roads this year. Right of way, excessive speed, and drug and alcohol impairment continue to be the primary contributing factors in these fatal crashes. Of these fatalities, 47.8 percent were not wearing a safety belt.

During the month of December, the North Dakota Highway Patrol will be conducting a high visibility enforcement campaign that focuses on speed, right of way, impairment, distracted driving, and seat belt violations.

Overtime hours have been made available for troopers to work during this campaign. The goal of the campaign is to have an increased patrol presence on roadways, encouraging drivers to voluntarily comply with traffic laws. An increased trooper presence actively engaged in traffic stops will target driving behaviors to decrease the probability of a serious injury or fatal crash, which is the goal of North Dakota's Vision Zero strategy.

According to NDHP Safety and Education Officer Sgt. Wade Kadrmas, "When you become a licensed driver, you agree to be responsible for your personal driving behaviors. It is the responsibility of every driver to prevent tragedy and protect your life and the lives of others on the road by driving distraction-free, obeying posted speed limits, and to never drive while impaired. Convenience should never take priority over safety."

While there may be an increased presence on the roads, NDHP encourages drivers to make responsible driving choices rather than receive education through enforcement. It's easier and safer for every driver to take personal responsibility to help North Dakota work toward Vision Zero: zero fatalities, zero excuses.

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### **For More Information Contact:**

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