

# NEWS RELEASE



## Communications Division

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Law Enforcement Turns Up the Heat in the Last Days of Summer**

*Three-week statewide crackdown to focus on impaired motorists*

**Indianapolis, IN.**—In an effort to reduce the number of deaths and injuries on Indiana roadways, the Governor’s Council on Impaired & Dangerous Driving will join more than 250 state and local law enforcement agencies to launch the *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.* crackdown on impaired driving and motorcycle riding. The statewide crackdown will take place from August 21 through the Labor Day holiday on September 7.

Through high-visibility saturation patrols, sobriety checkpoints and other activities designed to deter impaired driving and riding, law enforcement officers across the state will be on the lookout for those who operate passenger vehicles and motorcycles while impaired.

According to the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI), Labor Day has been, on average, Indiana’s most deadly holiday for the past five years. The 2007 Labor Day holiday period (6:00 p.m. August 31 through 5:59 a.m. September 4) was a particularly dangerous time on Indiana roadways, resulting in 11 fatalities. Two of these were alcohol-related.

“While we’ve generally seen a decline in the number of alcohol-related collisions and fatalities over the past five years, far too many Hoosiers are still losing their lives as a result of impaired driving,” said Neil Moore, executive director of ICJI. “Enjoy the end of summer responsibly by designating a sober driver whenever you plan to consume alcohol. Simple forethought could ultimately save a life.”

According to the 2009 Indiana Traffic Safety Alcohol Fact Sheet published by ICJI, alcohol-related collisions in Indiana cost Hoosiers an estimated \$514 million in 2008. More than half of that cost was associated with collisions involving a driver over the legal limit.

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*“Over the Limit. Under Arrest.”*

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[www.in.gov/cji](http://www.in.gov/cji)

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According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), nearly 13,000 people were killed in impaired driving crashes in 2007. By that account, an average of one impaired driving fatality occurs in the United States every 40 minutes.

For more information, visit [www.in.gov/cji](http://www.in.gov/cji).

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