

## **Tigard Police Department** Media Release

13125 SW Hall Boulevard | Tigard, Oregon 97223

| www.tigard-or.gov/police

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## **Contact:**

Stefanie Kouremetis, Community Engagement Program Coordinator

Tigard Police Department Phone: 503-718-2814

Email: stefanie.kouremetis@tigard-or.gov

## Tigard Police Plan Extra DUII Enforcement Starting this Weekend

Starting this weekend through Labor Day, the Tigard Police Department will assign additional officers to focus on impaired and unsafe driving along Tigard roadways.

The additional staffing is made possible by a High Visibility Enforcement campaign grant, offered by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and administered by the Oregon Department of Transportation, that funds officer overtime for DUII enforcement.

With DUII arrests taking 2-4 hours to process between the traffic stop, sobriety tests to jail transport, additional resources allow officers to proactively monitor roads and stop dangerous drivers. Officers will also be on the lookout for speeding, distracted driving and other violations impacting traffic safety.

"Drunk driving is a massive problem in the United States, with more than 10,000 people dying annually," says Tigard Police Chief Kathy McAlpine. Impaired driving typically trends upward during the holidays. In response, Tigard Police is also planning to partner with other law enforcement agencies in Washington County in a coordinated enforcement effort to stop drunk drivers during the Labor Day weekend.

Tigard Police ask for your help making our roads safer and stopping impaired driving:

- Plan for a safe alternative to driving impaired by arranging for a designated driver, rideshare, taxi or public transportation.
- When you see something, say something. Says Chief McAlpine, "If you're out on the roads and you see someone driving under the influence – please call 9-1-1. You could help save a life."

Tigard Police plan to apply for future grants that are credited with improving the safety of our roads and highways. Find out more information about these efforts here: oregonimpact.org.