

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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POLICE TO INCREASE PATROLS LABOR DAY WEEKEND

SUFFOLK, Virginia (August 28, 2019) Suffolk Police will increase patrols this Labor Day weekend to keep Suffolk's roads safe from impaired drivers. Between Friday, August 30th and Monday, September 2nd, people will be traveling and having fun to ring in the unofficial end of summer. They remind you to celebrate responsibly, and share the following tips not only for safe Labor Day traveling, but also throughout the rest of the year:

Always Wear a Seat Belt

One of the most important things that every driver needs to do is wear a seat belt. Though buckling up does not prevent the accident itself from occurring, it does significantly improve your chances of reducing potential injuries during the accident. No matter how short the distance you are driving, always take the time to play it safe by buckling your seatbelt. Ensure everyone else in the vehicle is buckled up as well.

Never Drink and Drive

Some people will be consuming alcohol beverages over the holiday weekend. Drinking and driving is one of the most dangerous things that an individual can do behind the wheel. Those who drink and drive put

themselves and everyone around them in danger. When you are not in complete control of your actions behind the wheel, you are operating a dangerous weapon. Always travel with a designated driver or call a cab, Uber, or Lyft as needed. If you see a suspected DUI driver, call 911 to report and advise a vehicle description and direction of travel.

Avoid Distractions

One of the most important things you can do to reduce your risk of an accident is to pay attention to your surroundings at all times. Drivers who are distracted behind the wheel run the risk of missing something important during the drive, whether it is a light, pedestrian, or another vehicle. Avoid using your cell phone, keep your eyes ahead of you, never text and drive, and stay vigilant on the road.

Be Patient

One of the best ways to avoid accidents is to simply practice patient and defensive driving. Everyone wants to be somewhere on the road, and it is natural that traffic jams may occur during a holiday like Labor Day. Plan ahead as much as possible and always keep your cool when you are faced with a difficult situation.

The Suffolk Police Department takes great pride in maintaining the safety of the roadways throughout the jurisdiction and wants all motorists to make it to their destinations safely. Increased patrols are one of many tools the Suffolk Police Department use to make the roadways safer for all who travel on them.

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