

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** \_\_\_\_\_

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### **SUFFOLK POLICE OFFER SAFETY TIPS FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE**

SUFFOLK, VA (December 28, 2018) December 31<sup>st</sup> is a traditional evening for festivities and parties to welcome in the new year. As you're planning your celebration, take into consideration that between 6 p.m. on December 31<sup>st</sup> and 6 a.m. on January 1<sup>st</sup> are the most dangerous hours of the year to drive or ride in a car on our nation's roadways. The Suffolk Police Department would like to remind residents to be safe and not drink and drive following a night out to celebrate. Police will be actively patrolling City highways and streets watching for hazardous drivers and working to keep the City safe for all motorists.

If your celebrations this year will include alcohol, follow these tips to ensure you have a safe start to 2019:

1. Make a plan ahead of time. Don't wait until you've started drinking to figure out how you're going to get home.
2. Never get in the car with a driver who has been drinking. Even one alcoholic beverage can impair his or her ability to drive safely.
3. Make sure friends and family who celebrate with you have a safe ride home, or invite them to sleep on your couch or spare bed.

4. Plan to call a taxi or use a ride sharing service such as Uber or Lyft to help you get home safely.

5. If you wake up early on New Year's Day after consuming too many adult beverages the night before, be aware that you could still be legally intoxicated and don't drive until enough time has passed that you're sober.

Also, if you witness a driver who you suspect may be driving under the influence, call 9-1-1 and follow from a safe distance or pull over if you feel that is safer.

Suffolk Police would like everyone to have a safe and happy New Year.

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