



CITY OF
TUCSON



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NEWS RELEASE

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Chief of Police

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DUI CHECKPOINT THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2012 ***UPDATE – MAY 4, 2012***

On Thursday, May 3rd, 2012, the Tucson Police Department conducted a sobriety checkpoint at the intersection of East 6th Street and North Jacobus. The intent of the checkpoint was to increase the awareness of motorists about the dangers of impaired driving, deter those who may be impaired from driving, and detect and investigate DUI offenses at the checkpoint.

The sobriety checkpoint utilized a total of 18 officers and contacted approximately 683 drivers during the hours of operation (9:30 p.m. – 2:30 a.m.). During this deployment, officers made **16 Misdemeanor DUI arrests and 2 Felony DUI arrests, two of which were for persons under 21 years of age. Five of the 18 Misdemeanor DUI arrests were also charged with Extreme DUI for having an alcohol concentration above 0.150 BAC. The average BAC for all of the DUI arrests was 0.130 BAC.** In addition to the DUI related arrests, officers issued 82 other citations, contacted **33 Designated Drivers** and impounded 7 vehicles.

Sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols are proven and effective methods of deterring impaired driving and are important components in the Tucson Police Department's overall efforts to reduce impaired driving. Surveys from prior sobriety checkpoints indicate overwhelming public support for checkpoints as a strategy to reduce DUI offenses. The Tucson Police Department encourages drivers to not drink and drive.

Sergeant Chris Andreacola – May 4, 2012

The Tucson Police Department was recently awarded a grant from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety for the purpose of conducting sobriety checkpoints over the upcoming summer months. The first sobriety checkpoint will be conducted during the evening hours of Thursday, May 3rd, 2012. The checkpoint will be conducted within the city limits of Tucson and in an area that has a high number of DUI related collisions.

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For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipación.

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Our goal is to reduce the number of collisions that involve impaired drivers and to lower the injuries and deaths associated with these types of collisions. By conducting the checkpoint, we will be able to increase the awareness of motorists about the dangers of impaired driving, deter those who may be impaired from driving, and detect and investigate DUI offenses at the checkpoint.

Members of the media wishing to attend the checkpoint will be accommodated. The checkpoint location will be revealed at a briefing on Thursday, May 3rd, at 8:00 p.m. The briefing will be held at the Operations Division West Substation located at 1310 W. Miracle Mile. Members of the media will be asked to keep the location of the checkpoint confidential.

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