

# NEWS RELEASE



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Bluffton Police Department Turns Up the Heat on Impaired Drivers**

*Crackdown devotes 21 days towards statewide effort to deter drunk driving*

**Bluffton, IN.**— The Bluffton Police Department today announced their participation in Indiana’s *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.* impaired driving crackdown beginning August 20.

Officers will join more than 250 state and local law enforcement agencies to conduct high-visibility saturation patrols, sobriety checkpoints and other activities designed to deter impaired driving and motorcycle riding across the Hoosier state through September 12.

“While the nation has seen a decline in the number of impaired driving fatalities, far too many motorists continue to lose their lives as a result of impaired drivers,” said Deputy Chief Nathan Huss. “One life lost is too many, so we’re asking Bluffton residents to enjoy the end of summer responsibly by designating a sober driver if they plan to consume alcohol.”

According to the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI), more than 8,800 alcohol-related collisions occurred on Indiana’s roadways in 2009, resulting in 168 alcohol-related fatalities. Statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) show that nearly 12,000 people died in crashes where a driver or motorcycle rider was at or above the legal limit in 2008.

NHTSA data also shows that 32 percent motor vehicle traffic crash fatalities that occurred nationwide involved a driver or motorcycle rider with a BAC of .08 g/dL or above in 2008—that’s an average of one fatality every 45 minutes.

For more information on the crackdown, visit the High-Visibility Enforcement Campaign Headquarters at [www.StopImpairedDriving.org](http://www.StopImpairedDriving.org).

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