FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Winter Holiday DUI Campaign – Final Report

SANTA ANA, California (January 3, 2013) - The Winter Holiday Anti-DUI crackdown has ended and resulted in a significant number of DUI arrests from the sobriety checkpoints, special saturation patrols and routine patrols in Orange County’s “Avoid the 38 ” DUI Campaign.

From 12:01 a.m. on Friday, December 14 through midnight on Tuesday, January 1, 2013 officers representing 38 county law enforcement agencies arrested 971 individuals for driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. Last year, 836 DUI arrests occurred during the same time period. For the second year in a row, no DUI related deaths were reported in Orange County during the 19-day period. (NOTE: These numbers are only provisional with some agencies yet to report.)

Law enforcement officials will be conducting more Avoid DUI operations throughout the county and region during Super Bowl Sunday in February and then again for local St. Patrick’s Day festivities in March.

Police, Sheriff and the CHP encourage all motorists to help make your community safe by reporting drunk drivers by calling 911.

DUI checkpoints, along with regularly scheduled high visibility DUI enforcement, are proven strategies with the goal of removing impaired drivers from the road and heightening awareness of the dangers of driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), sobriety checkpoint programs can yield considerable cost savings: $6 for every $1 spent.

Grant funding for this program is provided by the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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