



ORANGE COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

# NEWS RELEASE

SHERIFF-CORONER DON BARNES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Don't Rely on Luck: Designate a Sober Driver this St. Patrick's Day**

**SANTA ANA, Ca. (March 13, 2020):** If you plan to have a few cheers for St. Patrick's Day, remember to plan ahead and have a designated sober driver take you home.

St. Patrick's Day celebrations are one of the biggest drinking nights of the year, which makes it all the more important to let someone who has not been drinking take you home.

To help keep the public safe, the Orange County Sheriff's Department will have extra officers on patrol this St. Patrick's Day, March 17, looking for drivers suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

In 2018 alone, 73 people were killed in drunk-driving crashes over the St. Patrick's Day holiday period (6 p.m. March 16 to 5:59 a.m. March 18).

If you plan on drinking, designate a sober driver, take a ride-share or use public transportation to get around.

If you ever see a drunk driver on the road, call 911.

Funding for St. Patrick's Day DUI enforcement is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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