



Press Release

**City of Redondo Beach
Police Department**

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PRESS RELEASE

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REDONDO BEACH POLICE TO COMBAT ROADWAY DEATHS AND INJURIES WITH DUI CHECKPOINTS

The Redondo Beach Police Department has been awarded a new traffic safety grant for an anti-DUI program aimed at preventing deaths and injuries on Redondo Beach roadways. Enforcement measures to combat impaired driving are coming as a result of a recent \$ 51,000 grant awarded by the California Office of Traffic Safety to the City of Redondo Beach. The Redondo Beach Police Department is dedicated to keeping our streets safe through both enforcement and education.

“When you drive under the influence of intoxicants, you show a careless disregard for yourself, your family and friends and for the innocent, law-abiding people that share the road with you. Impaired drivers cause collisions that frequently result in injury or death. We are committed to reduce these incidents through increased enforcement. Twice as many alcohol-impaired accidents occur over the weekend and four times as many occur at night. We will be especially vigilant during these high-risk times when impaired drivers are most likely to be on our roads,” said Police Chief Joe Leonardi, Redondo Beach Police Department.

Drunk and drugged driving are among America’s deadliest crimes. In 2011, a modern day low of 774 people were killed and over 24,000 injured in alcohol and drug-impaired crashes in California. Last year, Redondo Beach experienced 23 people injured in these tragic crashes. Crashes involving alcohol drop have been shown to drop by up to 20 percent when well-publicized checkpoints are conducted often enough. Checkpoints have proven to be the most effective of any of the DUI enforcement strategies, while yielding considerable cost savings of \$6 for every \$1 spent and are supported by nearly 90 percent of California drivers.

Funding for this program is from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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