



Sheriff Gary Caruana
650 W. State Street
Rockford, IL 61102
(815) 319-6300

Winnebago County Sheriff's Department



News Release

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Contact: Cori Hilliard
(815) 319-6322
Hilliardc@WCSO-il.us

Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over, Drive High Get a DUI

Winnebago County, IL - The holidays are a time for caring and sharing, which is why Winnebago County Sheriff's Office is partnering with the Illinois Department of Transportation to spread the word about the dangers of impaired driving with a "Driver Sober or Get Pulled Over" and "Drive High. Get a DUI." enforcement campaign. From Dec. 13 through Jan. 2, 2025, law enforcement across Illinois will show zero tolerance for alcohol- and drug-impaired driving to keep our roads safe and help ensure a happy holiday season.

"If you'll be celebrating with festive drinks or other impairing substances, make a plan for a safe ride home before you leave for the party," said Sheriff Gary Caruana. "Driving impaired is simply unacceptable. That's why we make zero exceptions and arrest all impaired drivers. There are no excuses."

Winnebago County Sheriff's Office recommends these safe alternatives to impaired driving:

- Designate a sober driver or plan to use public transportation or a ride-sharing service, call an Uber or Lyft
- If you see an impaired driver on the road, pull over and contact Winnebago County Sheriff's Office non-emergency at 815-282-2600.
- Have a friend who is about to drive impaired? Take their keys and make arrangements to get them home safely. They'll thank you later.
- Always remember to buckle up!

The holiday enforcement campaign is administered by IDOT with federal highway safety funds managed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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