



For Immediate Release

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## **Elmwood Park Police Department launches holiday traffic enforcement crackdown**

### *Checkpoint to focus on impaired driving, seat belt enforcement*

(Elmwood Park, Illinois) – The Elmwood Park Police Department will conduct a roadside safety checkpoint over the weekend of December 29, 2012. Officers will also conduct a series of saturation patrols between December 22, 2012 and January 1, 2013. The roadside safety checkpoint and saturation patrols are designed to reduce traffic crashes and the liability associated with the violations of vehicular safety laws, including the detection of impaired drivers.

The roadside safety checkpoint and saturation patrols are being conducted through the support of the Sustained Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) grant by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Elmwood Park Police Chief Frank Fagiano recommends designating a sober driver and not letting friends and family drive impaired as just two of several simple steps to avoid a tragic crash or an arrest for impaired driving. Other important tips include:

- Plan ahead. Designate a sober driver before going out and give that person your keys

- If you are impaired, call a taxi, use mass transit or call a sober friend or family member to get you home safely
- Promptly report impaired drivers you see on the roadways to law enforcement
- Wear your seat belt and make sure all passengers are buckled up. It is your best defense against an impaired driver

The law enforcement crackdown runs concurrently with a media campaign that will remind motorists, “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” and “Click It or Ticket.”