



Oakland Police Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Oakland Police Department to Conduct Sobriety Checkpoint

Checkpoints to Address Reckless Driving, Unlicensed Operation & Driving Under The Influence

(Oakland, CA)-- Made possible by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, the Oakland Police Department Traffic Section will conduct a sobriety checkpoint in the City of Oakland on Saturday, April 23, 2005. The checkpoint will address the on-going and chronic problems associated with reckless driving, unlicensed operation and driving under the influence (DUI). The checkpoint will be in the 9200 block of International Boulevard and will be operational from 7:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m.

According to Oakland Police Lieutenant Dave Kozicki, "We know that unlicensed drivers are 11 times more likely to be convicted of DUI, four times more likely to be involved in fatal collisions and six times more likely to be involved in injury collisions than a licensed driver. Thirty-three percent of unlicensed drivers tend to have a criminal record, while 85 percent of unlicensed drivers have used a vehicle during the commission of a crime. All of these statistics are interwoven into the problem commonly referred to as the "Sideshow." The use of checkpoints has been found to be effective in reducing the frequency of DUI and unlicensed operation. Checkpoints have also proven effective in improving the quality of life in the neighborhoods where they are established."

By law, anyone caught driving without a license will have his or her vehicle impounded for 30 days.

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