



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“DWI ENFORCER ALL-STARS” TO BE HONORED AT TARGET FIELD WITH 4TH OF JULY WEEKEND DWI ENFORCEMENT ON DECK

Alcohol a Factor in 14 of 18 Independence Day Period Road Deaths Since 2007

Alcohol
and Gambling
Enforcement

Bureau of
Criminal
Apprehension

Driver
and Vehicle
Services

Emergency
Communication
Networks

Homeland
Security and
Emergency
Management

Minnesota
State Patrol

Office of
Communications

Office of
Justice Programs

Office of
Traffic Safety

State Fire
Marshal

ST. PAUL — The Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS) will announce the state’s top DWI enforcers during pre-game festivities at the Minnesota Twins game at Target Field, July 1. The *2010 DWI Enforcer All-Stars* include 30 law enforcement officers and three prosecutors from the Twin Cities' metro area and Greater Minnesota, selected for outstanding service in enforcement and in prosecution of impaired driving.

Minnesota State Patrol Trooper Jack Tiegs is the state’s Most Valuable Enforcer, leading all law enforcement with 133 DWI arrests in 2009. (Complete *DWI Enforcer All-Star* rosters are on page 2).

This is the third year DPS has recognized the state’s top DWI enforcers and the first year as Car-X as a sponsor of the event.

“It’s important to recognize Minnesota’s top law enforcement officers for their tremendous work and dedication to take impaired drivers off our roads and prevent deaths and injuries,” says Cheri Marti, DPS director of the Office of Traffic Safety.

The All-Star announcement accompanies enhanced DWI enforcement during the historically deadly 4th of July weekend. During 2007–2009 surrounding the holiday period, there were 18 traffic deaths of which 14 were alcohol-related — and only two of the 11 motorists killed were belted.

The holiday DWI crackdown will run in the state’s 13 deadliest counties for impaired driving — Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Olmsted, Otter Tail, Ramsey, Rice, St. Louis, Scott, Sherburne, Stearns, Washington and Wright.

Increased DWI enforcement activity will continue throughout the summer. During July, August and September in 2007–2009, alcohol-related crashes accounted for 151 deaths, representing 30 percent of all alcohol-related deaths for the three-year period.

Each year in Minnesota, alcohol-related crashes account for more than one-third of the state’s total traffic deaths. Last year, 141 people were killed in alcohol-related crashes, an all-time low. In 2009, 32,576 motorists were arrested for DWI. DPS also reports that each year 75 percent of impaired drivers killed in crashes are also not buckled up.

Marti says while law enforcement is a key factor in stopping impaired driving, she underscores the need for all Minnesotans to play a role in keeping roads safe.

“The All-Stars and their law enforcement colleagues can’t stop impaired driving alone,” she says. “Everyone must take action to prevent friends from driving impaired and use safe alternatives rather than getting behind the wheel after drinking.”

—DWI ENFORCER ALL-STAR ROSTERS ON PAGE 2—

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Twin Cities DWI Enforcer All-Stars — and number of 2009 DWI arrests (Pronunciations in parenthesis):

- Danny Bouavichith (Bo-Vee-Chith), Savage Police Department — 53
- Officer Bill Hammes (Hahmmas), Coon Rapids Police Department — 63
- Officer Joshua Hunter, Corcoran Police Department — 60
- Officer John Kolar, Shakopee Police Department — 87
- Officer Scott Langner, Maplewood Police Department — 72
- Officer Gabe Lee, Blaine Police Department — 73
- Trooper Eric Micek (My-sik), State Patrol — 106
- Trooper Pat Miles, State Patrol — 110
- Trooper Brian Reu (Roo), State Patrol — 104
- Officer Santiago Rodriguez, St. Paul Police Department — 78
- Officer Richard Schwab, South St. Paul Police Department — 102
- Officer Dan Schyma (Sheema), Apple Valley Police Department — 57
- Officer Nic Stevens, Lakeville Police Department — 89
- Trooper Jack Tiegs (Teegs), State Patrol — 133
- Trooper Ben Uzlik (Youz-lik), State Patrol — 121

Greater Minnesota DWI Enforcer All-Stars — and number of 2009 DWI Arrests (Pronunciations in parenthesis):

- Trooper Scott Barstad, State Patrol — 82
- Officer Anthony Bermel, Pike Bay Police Department — 23
- Trooper Garret Bondhus (Bond-us), State Patrol — 118
- Deputy Tom Coulter (Coal-ter), Blue Earth County Sheriff's Office — 54
- Trooper Jason Engeldinger (En-gell-dinger), State Patrol — 51
- Officer Steve Estey (Es-tee), Virginia Police Department — 39
- Deputy Lyan (Lion) Karger, Beltrami County Sheriff's Office — 80
- Officer Adam Kladivo (Klad-uh-voe), Hibbing Police Department — 46
- Officer Scott Kostohryz (Kah-stor-iss), Moorhead Police Department — 42
- Officer Brian Martin, Blue Earth County Sheriff's Office — 61
- Trooper Lucas McArthur, State Patrol — 96
- Deputy Dan Mott, Mille Lacs County Sheriff's Office — 53
- Officer Ryan Sayre (Say-er), Hutchinson Police Department — 44
- Officer Jean Valere (Vah-lair), Rochester Police Department — 48
- Officer Darin Vossen, Worthington Police Department — 51

DWI All-Star Prosecutors:

- Pam Converse, Scott Joint Prosecution Association
- Sean McCarthy, Hastings City Attorney
- Ilissa (ill-issa) Ramm (Ram), Crow Wing County Attorney's Office

Editor's Note: *For access to on-field pre-game presentation (scheduled around 6:30 p.m.), contact Minnesota Twins media contact Chris Iles at 612-659-3503*

