



University of Central Arkansas Police Department
Protecting and Serving the Academic Community



AUGUST/LABOR DAY CRACKDOWN NEWS RELEASE



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UCA Police Department Launches '*Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest*' Crackdown on August 17, 2007

Major Enforcement Effort Seeks to Educate and Protect the Academic Community

[Conway, AR] – Drunk driving is one of America's deadliest crimes. In 2005, nearly 13,000 people died in highway crashes involving a driver or motorcycle operator with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher. The picture for motorcycle operators is particularly bleak. Forty-one percent of the 1,878 motorcycle operators who died in single-vehicle crashes in 2005 had BAC levels of .08 or higher.

That is why the University of Central Arkansas Police Department announced today they will be joining with thousands of other law enforcement and highway safety agencies across the nation from August 17 throughout the Labor Day holiday to take part in the *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.* crackdown on impaired driving.

"Make no mistake. Our message is simple. No matter what you drive—a passenger car, pickup, sport utility vehicle or motorcycle—if we catch you driving impaired, we will arrest you. No exceptions. No excuses," said Lt. Rhonda Swindle, Community Relations Commander with the UCA Police Department. We will be out in force conducting saturation patrols to get more drunk drivers off the road—and save lives that might otherwise be lost.

The UCA Police Department's saturation effort on the roadways within and surrounding the 300 acre campus is funded through a Federal grant administered by the Arkansas State Police - Highway Safety Office.

"Driving with a BAC of .08 or higher is illegal in every state. For those under the age of 21 driving with a BAC of merely .02 is illegal in Arkansas. Yet we continue to see far too many people suffer debilitating injuries and loss of their loved ones as a result of impaired driving. The UCA Police Department is dedicated to educating our young adults about the consequences of driving while

under the influence and, when necessary, arresting impaired drivers to help ensure the safety of the campus community,” said Lt. Swindle.

“Drunk driving is simply not worth the risk. Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for impaired driving can be significant. Violators often face jail time, the loss of their driver’s license, higher insurance rates, attorney fees, time away from work, and dozens of other expenses.

“So don’t take the chance. Remember, if you are over the limit, you are under arrest.”

The national *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.* impaired driving crackdown is a prevention program organized by the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) that focuses on combining high-visibility enforcement with heightened public awareness through advertising and publicity.

This year’s effort is supported by \$11 million in paid-national advertising to help put everyone on notice that if they are caught driving impaired, they will be arrested.

For more information, visit www.StopImpairedDriving.org.

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