



University of Central Arkansas Police Department

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NEWS RELEASE

UCA Police Department Launches Intensive Crackdown on Impaired Driving Police Vow to Arrest *Everyone* Found Driving 'Over the Limit'

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Lt. Rhonda Swindle, (501) 450-3111, rswindle@uca.edu

UCAPD Warns Young Drivers about the Dangers of Underage Drinking and Driving

(UCA Conway, AR) - State and local law enforcement agencies across Arkansas will conduct sobriety checkpoints, saturation patrols and stepped up enforcement March 12-21 and April 16-25 looking for drunk drivers and especially young adults and teens who choose to drink and drive. The mobilization is supported by television and radio ads and educational activities in high schools to remind the public that there is zero tolerance for those under age 21 who decide to drink and drive.

The UCA Police Department will be out in force looking for all drunk drivers with an emphasis on violators of Arkansas' Underage DUI Law, which makes it illegal for anyone under age 21 to drive with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .02 or above.

The State Department of Education has distributed posters and public address announcements to public high schools urging them to make their students aware of this law enforcement initiative to keep young drivers safe. The message is especially important at this time of the year when many more young people are on the road for spring breaks and end-of-school activities such as proms and graduations.

"For a young driver, this means one drink is all it takes to be impaired," said Lt. Rhonda Swindle. "Impaired driving is not just another traffic offense; it is a serious crime that often causes needless deaths and injuries," she said. "If you are over the limit, we will arrest and prosecute you. No exceptions. No excuses."

Underage drinking laws in all 50 states make it illegal for those under age 21 to consume any amount of alcohol. For more information on the campaign contact the Arkansas Highway Safety Office at 501-618-8136 and for more information on impaired driving, please visit www.StopImpairedDriving.org

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