



## Porterville Police Department

### PRESS RELEASE

December 28, 2011

### DUI Enforcement Operations Planned this Weekend

Officers from the Porterville Police Department's DUI Enforcement Team will be deploying this New Year's weekend to stop and arrest impaired drivers in the Department's ongoing traffic safety campaign.

"For those who don't care about their own safety or the safety of others, *BEWARE* – We're looking for you," said Officer Carl Jordan, Porterville PD. "If we catch you behind the wheel of your car, truck, or ride your motorcycle buzzed, you will go to jail this weekend." Porterville PD will be conducting multiple "Zero Tolerance" DUI Saturation Patrols beginning on Friday, December 30, 2011, targeting those who still don't heed the message to designate a sober driver before their New Year's celebrations begin. Funding for this program is through a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Statewide, overall traffic deaths declined by 23 percent, from 3,995 in 2007 to 3,081 in 2009. Total traffic fatalities are at their lowest levels in six decades. DUI deaths declined by 16 percent, from 1,132 in 2007 to 950 in 2009. Alcohol impaired deaths still make up the largest category of overall vehicle fatalities, with 31 percent of all deaths caused by a drunk driver.

"Everyone in California should be heartened with these declines," said Christopher J. Murphy, Director of the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS). "But as encouraging as this is, we can't let up on the efforts to encourage and support traffic safety. Please, help make your community safe; if you see a Drunk Driver – Call 9-1-1."

**MEDIA NOTES:** To schedule an interview regarding the Porterville Traffic Safety Operations, please contact Officer Carl Jordan at (559) 782-7408 or via email at [cjordan@ci.porterville.ca.us](mailto:cjordan@ci.porterville.ca.us). To schedule an interview regarding impaired driving efforts and programs in California please contact Chris Cochran, California Office of Traffic Safety at (916) 509-3063 or via email at [ccochran@ots.ca.gov](mailto:ccochran@ots.ca.gov).