

Statewide Enforcement Checkpoints Aim to Reduce DUI-Related Crashes and Fatalities



Delaware – The Delaware State Police and the Office of Highway Safety in partnership with local law enforcement agencies are committed to improving the safety of Delaware’s motoring public. During this past weekend Delaware, Maryland and Virginia as part of the “Border to Border” multi-jurisdictional deployment along with the Delmar, Laurel, Seaford, Bridgeville and Greenwood Police Departments worked together to patrol the entire length of U.S. 13 from Virginia to Delaware.

On Saturday, March 17, 2018, more than 70 law enforcement officers from across Delaware assembled at several locations

in all three counties to conduct statewide impaired driving checkpoints. The focus was on behavioral traffic safety issues such as impaired driving, seat belt use, child-passenger safety, pedestrian and various other traffic safety concerns.

A total of 2,228 vehicles went through the checkpoints; Of those, 51 drivers were detained for further investigation, 15 were drug arrests, 15 DUI arrest, 11 seatbelt arrests, three DRE Evaluations and 12 other traffic arrests.

Delaware's Checkpoint Strike-force is a regional sobriety checkpoint campaign aimed at arresting DUI offenders by using High Visibility Enforcement to deter those who would otherwise choose to drink and drive. In 2017, there have been 3,230 DUI arrests statewide and 24 confirmed fatalities related to impaired driving as of November 2017. The Delaware State Police have teamed up with the Delaware Office of Highway Safety and local law enforcement agencies across the state to coordinate Delaware's multi-jurisdictional DUI checkpoints in conjunction with the "Border to Border multi-state traffic safety initiative for a safer Delaware.

"As a result of our combined efforts and strategies for the 2018 St. Patrick's Day Checkpoint Strike-force and the "Border to Border" Traffic Safety Initiative; the Delaware State Police and our local allied partners (Delmar, Laurel, Seaford, Bridgeville and Greenwood Police Departments) were able to arrest a total of 15 driving under influence and 15 drug arrests during the St. Patrick's Day weekend.

As the Delaware State Police collaborated with the Delaware Office of Highway Safety; the outcome of this traffic initiative proved to be a safer weekend for Delaware. Through education, deterrence, proactive patrols and targeted locations we were able to serve the essential purpose to inform the motoring public on the importance of driving safe." –Sgt. Richard Bratz, DSP–

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FAQs on life after a DUI can be found at <http://www.arrivealive.com/Drive-Sober/FAQs>

The link to OHS' website about driving sober, DUI fatalities and arrests is <http://www.arrivealivede.com/DriveSober>

For more information on impaired driving visit <http://www.nhtsa.gov/Impaired>

Presented by the Director of Public Information, Sergeant Richard D. Bratz

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