**2019 DRIVE SOBER
Talking Points**

**Labor Day Campaign:**

Labor Day *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* high-visibility enforcement campaign, which runs from August 16 through September 2, 2019.

The enforcement campaign coincides with the 2019 Labor Day holiday weekend, which is one of the deadliest times of the year in terms of drunk-driving fatalities.

Funding is provided by a federal grant through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)

**Prevention:**

Alcohol not only impairs your driving skills – it impairs your judgment – so don’t wait until you’ve been drinking to find a sober driver.

If you *plan* to drink alcohol, make sure you *plan* for a designated driver.

Drunken-driving crashes are 100 percent preventable if you celebrate responsibly.

With all the sober ride options available, there is never an excuse for driving after drinking.

Report any drunken drivers that you see. Safely pull off the road and contact law enforcement:

* Before you start driving, program Kentucky State Police hotline into your cell phone (1-800-222-5555).

Remember that your best defense against an impaired driver is to wear your seat belt!

**Kentucky Statistics for 2018:**

Over the 2018 Labor Day holiday, there were 63 crashes involving alcohol, resulting in 26 injuries.

There were more than 4,700 total collisions involving alcohol in Kentucky last year, resulting in more than 2,400 injuries and 87 fatalities.

Twelve percent of the total fatalities were due to a drunken driver.

Motorcycle riders involved in fatal crashes had higher percentages of alcohol impairment than any other type of motor vehicle driver:

* 14% for motorcycle riders
* 12% for light-truck drivers
* 11% for passenger cars
* 4% for drivers of large trucks).

According to NHTSA, on average, one person is killed every 50 minutes in a drunk-driving crash in the United States.

**Drunken Driving Comes at a Cost**

Drunken driving can cost you your life, but it can also cost you financially.

* If you’re caught drinking and driving, you could face jail time. Imagine trying to explain that to your friends and family or your place of employment if you’re unable to report to the office.
* On average, a DUI can set you back $10,000 in attorney fees, fines, court costs, lost time at work, higher insurance rates, car towing and repairs, and more.
* In addition to the human toll drunk driving takes on our country, the financial impact is devastating as well: based on 2010 numbers (the most recent year for which cost data is available), impaired-driving crashes costs the United States $44 billion annually.

**Keep Kentucky’s streets safe as you celebrate. Don’t drink and drive!**

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