



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Celebrate This Fourth of July Weekend Responsibly
Help prevent impaired driving crashes during the holiday weekend

FRANKFORT, Ky. (July 1, 2025)—Team Kentucky is reminding all Kentuckians that if their Independence Day celebration includes alcohol, they should celebrate responsibly.

Impaired driving crashes typically increase over holidays, so Team Kentucky is joining the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to remind drivers that “Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving.” Even one drink can affect a driver’s ability to operate a vehicle safely. Planning for a sober, designated driver before the festivities begin can help prevent serious injuries and loss of life on Kentucky’s roadways.

“As we celebrate our nation’s independence, I encourage every Kentuckian to make smart choices and put safety first,” said Gov. Andy Beshear. “Driving under the influence puts lives at risk — yours and others’. Plan ahead, use a designated driver or call a ride service. Above all, never get behind the wheel impaired. Together, we can make this a safe and joyful holiday weekend for everyone across the Commonwealth.”

According to the Kentucky State Police database, last year in Kentucky, there were 93 crashes involving a drunken and/or drugged driver over the Fourth of July holiday period, resulting in 41 injuries and eight deaths.

As part of the nationwide “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” initiative, KOHS is coordinating with local and state law enforcement to increase high-visibility patrols and sobriety checkpoints throughout the holiday period.

"If you use drugs or alcohol and decide to drive, you're putting yourself and everyone else on the road in danger," said Transportation Secretary Jim Gray. "These substances make it harder to think clearly, react quickly and stay in control. You might feel okay to drive, but you're not. It's just not worth the risk."

To prevent tragedies, follow these recommendations:

- Before the festivities begin, plan to get home safely at the end of the night.
- If you're impaired, use a ride-booking company, taxi, call a sober friend or family member, or use public transportation to get home safely.
- If you see an impaired driver, safely pull over and contact law enforcement. You may dial the Kentucky State Police's toll-free line at 800-222-5555 or call 911.
- If you know people who are about to drive or ride while impaired, take their keys and help them make other arrangements to get to their destination safely.
- Wear a seat belt! It is not only the law; it is also the best defense against an impaired driver. Buckling up helps prevent injury and death if you are involved in a crash.

For more information visit kyhighwaysafety.com.

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Ed. note: Click [here](#) for the Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving logo.

Ed. note: Click [here](#) for Fourth of July Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving image.

