

NEWS RELEASE

MANSFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Date: 11/15/2011

SUBJECT: Thanksgiving HVEO Blitz

No. 27

Mansfield, Ohio – The Thanksgiving holiday should be a joyous time for all families in America, but far too often the celebration turns to tragedy on the nation’s highways.

“We urge everyone driving on our state’s roads this holiday period to drive carefully, don’t drive impaired and most importantly, buckle up each and every trip, night and day,” said Lt. Mike Higgins of the Mansfield Division of Police.

In Ohio during the 2010 Thanksgiving weekend, there were a total of 3,229 crashes in the state. Of those, there were 1,026 reported injuries and 16 reported deaths. Seven of the deaths were alcohol related.

Lt. Higgins said that impaired drivers not only take the risk of hurting or killing themselves or someone else, the trauma and financial costs of an alcohol-impaired-driving crash or an arrest can be significant. Violators often face jail time, the loss of their driver licenses, higher insurance rates and dozens of other unanticipated expenses.

“Alcohol impairs many of the skills that safe driving requires. So we will be showing zero tolerance, and anyone caught driving with a BAC of .08 or higher will be arrested,” said Lt Higgins. “It’s simply not worth the risk to you or to the thousands of innocent victims who are hurt or killed each year by drunk drivers. So if you are over the limit, you will get busted.”

Members of the Mansfield Division of Police will be working Traffic Enforcement details over the Thanksgiving weekend. To accomplish this, the Mansfield Division of Police will be utilizing funds obtained through a federally funded grant through the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services and Traffic Safety.

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