



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 28, 2018

## ***Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Enforcement Period Starts March 1***

DEVILS LAKE, N.D. – Law enforcement agencies across North Dakota will run extra patrols in an effort to remove impaired drivers off the roads, as part of the *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* enforcement campaign from March 1-31.

“It’s never ok to drive under the influence,” said North Dakota Highway Patrol Lieutenant Troy Hischer in Devils Lake. “There are too many instances every year of people making that poor decision and ultimately injuring or killing someone. Whether from peer pressure, a false sense of security or thinking you have no other option, there is never a valid excuse. We must all drive sober or not drive at all.”

Preliminary data from 2017 in North Dakota reports 50 motor vehicle fatalities and 470 injuries due to an alcohol-related crash. This translates to one alcohol-related fatality every seven days in North Dakota. In fact, nearly 1 in 5 (19 percent) adult arrests in North Dakota are for Driving Under the Influence (DUI).

“With the newly launched statewide traffic safety initiative, Vision Zero – Zero fatalities. Zero excuses, we hope that this enforcement campaign will bring more awareness to the seriousness of a driver’s actions behind the wheel so we can reach that goal. The lives lost or those individuals who have been seriously injured due to an impaired driver is unacceptable and 100 percent preventable,” said Karin Mongeon, North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) Safety Division Director.

The NDDOT administers federal grant funding as part of an overall effort to prevent fatalities and injuries on North Dakota roads. Learn more at [dot.nd.gov](http://dot.nd.gov), [visionzero.nd.gov](http://visionzero.nd.gov), or join the conversation on the Vision Zero ND [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) page.

Families are invited to create memorials for those who have died in crashes in North Dakota on the North Dakota Crash Memorial Wall at [visionzero.nd.gov](http://visionzero.nd.gov).

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