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DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY

Office of Highway Safety

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NEWS RELEASE

FOOTBALL FANS URGED TO HAVE A SAFE AND SOBER RIDE HOME ON SUPER BOWL SUNDAY

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE POLICE AND MANCHESTER POLICE COLLABORATING FOR DWI PATROL

CONCORD, N.H. – The New Hampshire Office of Highway Safety (NHOHS) is encouraging all football fans to celebrate Super Bowl LVIII responsibly by having a game plan for a safe and sober ride home. Fans and their friends who consume alcohol during the game are urged not to get behind the wheel. Residents and visitors are also asked to report suspected impaired drivers to 911 immediately.

Law enforcement agencies across the state who partner with the NHOHS will be increasing patrols throughout the upcoming weekend to intercept drivers who are suspected of being under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. Drivers should be aware that Troopers, officers and deputies will be strictly enforcing the state's impaired driving laws.

On Sunday, in the City of Manchester, New Hampshire State Police and the Manchester Police Department are partnering to conduct a saturation patrol, featuring increased personnel and resources to deter and detect impaired drivers. The joint patrol is funded through grants issued by the NHOHS.

Over the past five years, there have been no deadly crashes in New Hampshire on Super Bowl Sunday. However, there have been hundreds of non-deadly crashes. Dozens of drivers were also arrested for impaired driving.

DATE	NON-DEADLY CRASHES STATEWIDE	ARRESTS
Feb. 3, 2019	90	25
Feb. 2, 2020	62	22
Feb. 7, 2021	203	14
Feb. 13, 2022	79	19
Feb. 12, 2023	48	15

Source: New Hampshire Department of Safety, Division of Motor Vehicles

“Designated drivers are the most valuable players on Super Bowl Sunday,” said New Hampshire Department of Safety Assistant Commissioner Eddie Edwards. “If it’s your turn to be the DD, take your role seriously and only consume nonalcoholic beverages. If your friends are drinking, make sure to ask them how they’re getting home, and encourage them to use a ride-share app or public transportation.”

"As we gear up for Super Bowl Sunday, let's remember to celebrate responsibly," said Chief Allen Aldenberg of the Manchester Police Department. "Our DWI patrols will be out in full force to ensure everyone's safety. Don't let one bad decision ruin the game for you or others."

"Driving under the influence is 100% preventable," said Lt. Christopher Storm of the New Hampshire State Police. "Choosing to drive under the influence can have tragic consequences. We are proud to work side by side with our partners at the Manchester Police Department, as together, we will help keep our roads safe and prevent impaired driving."

In 2021, there were 118 people killed in crashes on New Hampshire roads. Of those crashes, 70.3% involved alcohol and/or drugs. Causation data for 2022 and 2023 is still being finalized.

DWI offenses can cost drivers \$10,000 or more in fines and fees, the loss of their license, jail time or worse.

The NHOHS thanks all agencies and their members who are participating in this effort to protect lives and take impaired drivers off the roads. The initiative is funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) through grants issued by the NHOHS.

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