



KLAMATH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Media Release

Date: December 23, 2019

RE: Sheriff's Office Traffic Grant

Contact: Sergeant Ryan Kaber, rkaber@co.klamath.or.us

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), in association with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHSTA), awarded the Klamath County Sheriff's Office grant funds for traffic safety during 2019-2020 totaling **\$21,500**. The grants are being used to increase traffic enforcement with focused patrols for Distracted Driving, Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUII), Occupant Protection (Safety Belts), Pedestrian Safety and Speed Enforcement during the below specified events.

Distracted Driving

Grant Amount = **\$5,000**

- High Visibility Enforcement Now – 9/30/2020
- National Distracted Driving Awareness Month 4/2020 – SCHEDULED

DUII High Visibility Enforcement Events

Grant Amount = **\$5,000**

- High Visibility Enforcement Now – 9/30/2020
- ~~Thanksgiving 11/27 – 12/1/2019~~
- Christmas 2019/New Year's 2020 12/13 – 1/2/2020 – SCHEDULED
- Super Bowl 2/2/2020 – SCHEDULED
- Labor Day 8/16 – 9/3/2020 – SCHEDULED

Occupant Protection (Safety Belt) Blitz Periods

Grant Amount = **\$5,500**

- High Visibility Enforcement Now – 9/30/2020
- ~~Thanksgiving – Click It or Ticket 11/27 – 12/1/2019 – SCHEDULED~~
- Blitz #1 2/3 – 2/16/2020 – SCHEDULED
- Blitz #2 Click It or Ticket 5/18 – 5/31/2020 – SCHEDULED
- Blitz #3 8/24 – 9/6/2020 – SCHEDULED

Pedestrian Safety

Grant Amount = **\$2,000**

- High Visibility Enforcement Now – 9/30/2020

Speed Enforcement

Grant Amount = **\$4,000**

- High Visibility Enforcement Now – 9/30/2020

Visit the Sheriff's Office webpage under Departments at www.klamathcounty.org, and view all releases in the "Media Releases" tab.

Thanksgiving – Click It or Ticket

Over the Thanksgiving weekend, deputies provided nearly twenty hours of additional enforcement and presence. This increase resulted in sixteen citations, nineteen warnings and two arrests.

Christmas 2019 / New Year's 2020

The holidays are a time for caring and sharing, which is why the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is partnering with the Klamath County Sheriff's Office to share the message about the dangers of drunk driving. This holiday season, from December 13, 2019, through January 1, 2020, law enforcement will participate in the high-visibility national enforcement campaign, *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*. During this period, local law enforcement will show zero tolerance for drunk driving. Increased state and national messages about the dangers of driving impaired, coupled with enforcement and increased officers on the road, aim to drastically reduce drunk driving on our nation's roadways.

Sadly, the statistics prove that there is still a lot of work to do to put an end to drunk driving. According to NHTSA's Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), 10,511 people were killed in drunk-driving crashes in 2018. On average, 10,000 people were killed each year from 2014 to 2018 — one person was killed in drunk-driving crashes every 50 minutes in 2018. That's the equivalent of 20 jumbo jets crashing each year, with no survivors. This is why the Klamath County Sheriff's Office is working with NHTSA to remind drivers that drunk driving is not only illegal, it is a matter of life and death. As you head out to the holiday festivities, remember: *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*.



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