



TEMPLE TERRACE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEASONS GREETINGS: DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER

TEMPLE TERRACE, FL. – (12/17/15) – If you're enjoying the holidays with a drink, the Temple Terrace Police Department has a message for you: *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.*

Due to the increase in drunk driving-related fatalities around the holidays each year, law enforcement agencies across America will be actively searching for and arresting drunk drivers from Dec. 8 to Jan. 3.

They have good reason to: In 2013, 10,076 people were killed in crashes involving a drunk driver, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. In December 2013 alone, 733 people were killed in crashes involving at least one driver or motorcycle operator with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher. Twenty-three of those deaths occurred on Christmas Day.

"It's time for all drivers to get the message: Drunk driving is a choice you make, and when you make that choice, people get hurt or die," said Capt. Mike Pridemore of the Temple Terrace Police Department. "That's why we're joining with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to share the message: *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.*"

The safest way to get home, Pridemore said, is to drive sober or catch a ride with a sober, designated driver. If you plan on drinking at the holiday party or restaurant, hand the keys over to someone else, or take a taxi or public transportation. Or, try NHTSA's SaferRide mobile app, which allows users to summon a taxi or a friend, identifying the user's location so they can be picked up. The app is available at <http://ow.ly/RWs3S> for Android and <http://ow.ly/RWs8h> for iPhone users.

As part of the national *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* enforcement campaign period, police will be increasing the number of patrols and using local media to reach out to all drivers. If you're drinking and driving, the Temple Terrace police will stop you. You could face jail time, fines, loss of your driver's license, towing fees, and other expenses, totaling \$10,000 on average. That's not a small price, and that doesn't count the heftier price you could pay: your life or someone else's.

Remember, driving after drinking should never be an option. *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.*