



City of Monterey Park News Release

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On Halloween, and Every Day, Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving

Monterey Park Police Department Reminds Halloween Partiers of the Dangers of Impaired Driving

Monterey Park, Calif. – October 26, 2017 - Halloween is a time for making memories, not causing nightmares. This Halloween, the [Monterey Park Police Department](#) is reminding Halloween partiers that “Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving.” Stay safe – and help keep others safe – by refraining from impaired driving as “DUI Doesn’t Just Mean Booze.” In 2015, there were 55 people killed nationwide in drunk-driving-related crashes and others were killed by drugged impaired drivers. If your Halloween celebrating involves alcohol, marijuana or other drugs, it’s imperative that you make a plan to get home without getting behind the wheel.

Officers will be looking for signs of alcohol and/or drug impairment. When possible, specially trained officers will be available to evaluate those suspected of drug-impaired driving, which now accounts for a growing number of impaired driving crashes. Everyone should be mindful that when taking medication – whether prescription, over-the-counter or marijuana – drinking even small amounts of alcohol can greatly intensify the impairment affects.

buzzed
driving is
drunk
driving
designate a sober driver

It is illegal to drive with a BAC of .08 or higher and .05 or more for those under 21. In 2015, there were 10,265 people killed in alcohol impaired related crashes nationwide. Drug impaired and drug/alcohol combination crashes are rising and now with marijuana use legal, these stats are becoming a significant factor in deaths and injuries on California roadways.

According to the [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration](#), 45 percent of all people killed in motor vehicle crashes on Halloween night in recent years were in crashes involving an alcohol impaired driver nationwide. Children and parents out trick-or-treating are also at risk, as 36 percent of fatal pedestrian crashes on Halloween night involved drunk drivers.

**DUI DOESN'T
JUST MEAN
BOOZE**

This Halloween and every day, drivers need to remember that it is never okay to drive buzzed by alcohol, marijuana, medication or illicit drugs. No matter what, designate a sober driver or plan to use a ride share or public transportation to get home safely. Download the [OTS Designated Driver free mobile app](#), “DDVIP,” which helps find nearby bars and restaurants that feature free incentives for the designated sober driver, from free non-alcoholic drinks to free appetizers and more. The feature-packed app

even has social media tie-ins and even a tab for the non-DD to call Uber, Lyft or Curb.

Funding for this DUI operation is provided to the Monterey Park Police Department by a grant from the [California Office of Traffic Safety](#), through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, reminding everyone to ‘Report Drunk Drivers – Call 9-1-1’.

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