



NEWS RELEASE

For Release: (August 18, 2010)

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Branson Police participating in statewide impaired driving campaign *You Drink & Drive. You Lose.*

The Branson Police Department received a grant from the Missouri Department of Transportation's Highway Safety Division for participation in the *You Drink & Drive. You Lose* statewide campaign which will run from August 20 – September 6, 2010. Law enforcement efforts will be increased and will focus on reducing deaths and serious injuries caused by impaired drivers.

“DWI enforcement is a priority for the Branson Police Department,” said Assistant Police Chief Steve Dalton. “If you are stopped and found to be intoxicated, you will be arrested.”

Dalton said the consequences of being arrested for driving while intoxicated are serious:

- For the first conviction, your license will be suspended for 30 days followed by a 60-day suspension if a hardship license is not obtained.
- A second conviction results in a \$1,000.00 fine, a yearlong revocation of your license and up to a year in jail. You will also be required to install an ignition interlock system on your vehicle, preventing your car from starting when you have alcohol on your breath.
- Third and subsequent convictions can be penalized with up to a \$5,000.00 fine, a 10-year license denial, and/or up to seven years in jail.
- If you cause a fatal crash while intoxicated, you could be charged with Involuntary Manslaughter, a felony resulting in up to seven years of jail time, a \$5,000 fine or both.
- Insurance coverage will be difficult to find and if you do the rates will be significantly higher.

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