

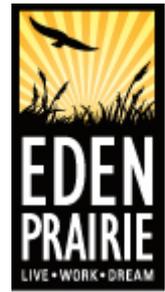
## NEWS RELEASE

For Release: Jan. 12, 2009

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## EDEN PRAIRIE AND BLOOMINGTON POLICE INCREASE IMPAIRED DRIVING PATROLS

### *76 Drivers Arrested for Driving While Intoxicated this Holiday Season*

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Police officers from Eden Prairie and Bloomington arrested 76 impaired drivers during a state-wide enforcement sweep covering the month of December — one of the deadliest months for alcohol-related crashes.

“We continue to see far too many impaired drivers on the streets of our cities,” said Pete Vosbeek, sergeant for the Eden Prairie Police Department. “These drivers are gambling with their own lives and the lives of those around them.”

Over 500,395 Minnesotans, one in eight, have a DWI arrest on record and alcohol-related crashes account for an average of 180 deaths in Minnesota each year.

“Too many drivers are killed or severely injured as a result of impaired driving,” said Sergeant Vosbeek. “That is what this initiative is all about, these deaths are preventable and we’re doing what we can to keep Minnesota roads safe.”

The *Safe & Sober* effort is coordinated by the Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety as a component of the state’s Toward Zero Death initiative (TZD). TZD is a multi-agency approach to address traffic issues regionally through enforcement, education, engineering and emergency trauma care and response.

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