

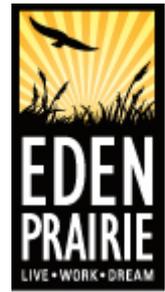
## NEWS RELEASE

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## EDEN PRAIRIE AND BLOOMINGTON POLICE CRACK DOWN ON IMPAIRED DRIVERS

### *79 Drivers Arrested for Driving While Intoxicated in July Safe & Sober Initiative*

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Police officers from Eden Prairie and Bloomington arrested 79 impaired drivers during the month of July as part of this year's *Safe & Sober* campaign.

More than 400 agencies state-wide participated this July in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety's *Safe & Sober* initiative which is aimed at the reduction of traffic-related fatalities and injuries.

"We need drivers to make smart decisions every time," said Pete Vosbeek, sergeant for the Eden Prairie Police Department. "Operating a motor vehicle when over the legal blood-alcohol limit is gambling with the lives of everyone on the road and it's not worth the risk."

Over 500,395 Minnesotans, one in eight, have a DWI arrest on record and within the last three years 540 motorists were killed in alcohol-related crashes on Minnesota roads.

"Too many drivers are killed or severely injured as a result of impaired driving," said Sergeant Vosbeek. "That is what the *Safe & Sober* 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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