



BLOOMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



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Impaired driving is scary: This Halloween the Bloomington Police Department is cracking down on drunk and drugged driving

Bloomington, IL - The Bloomington Police Department today urged motorists to commit to sober driving, buckling up and following traffic laws this Halloween, as children and their families walk through neighborhoods after dark for candy and spooky fun. If you're planning to enjoy Halloween festivities, make sure you also plan for a safe, sober ride home. Remember: "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" and "Click It or Ticket."

"According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, DUI incidents involving alcohol killed 13,524 people in 2022. The Bloomington Police Department is in the business of education and enforcement to prevent these tragedies," said Chief Jamal Simington. "I encourage all who intend to indulge to use a designated driver or service to avoid causing crashes or being jailed. Our community is safer for it."

Driving while impaired is never acceptable. Remember: DUIs are not limited to alcohol-related offenses. It's illegal to drive under the influence of alcohol, cannabis, or any other drugs or substances. While cannabis may be legal for adults, if you drive high, you'll still get a DUI. Additionally, all vehicle occupants must wear their seat belts - failure to do so will result in a ticket.

The Bloomington Police Department encourages everyone to follow these simple tips to keep our roads safe this Halloween:

- Plan a safe way to get home before attending any party.
- Designate a sober driver, take public transportation, use a ride-sharing service, or call a sober friend or family member for a ride.
- Walking while impaired can be just as dangerous as driving. Make sure you have a sober friend to walk you home if needed.
- Always wear your seat belt - it's your best defense against impaired drivers and accidents.
- If you see an impaired driver on the road, contact local law enforcement as soon as it's safe to do so.
- If you see someone who is impaired and about to drive, take their keys and help them find a safe way home.

This Halloween enforcement and awareness campaign, including the "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" and "Click It or Ticket" initiatives, is funded by federal highway safety dollars, administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

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Media Contact:

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If you wish to submit a crime tip and remain anonymous, please contact the Crime & Intelligence Analysis Unit (CIAU) at 309-434-2963 or email CIAU@cityblm.org. You can also text the number 847411 by texting the word "BPDTIPS", then a space, followed by your tip information.

The tip line is not monitored 24/7. The CIAU office is staffed from 8am-4:30pm, weekdays. If no one is available to answer your call, please leave the information on the voicemail or send it by e-mail.

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