

**AUGUST/LABOR DAY CRACKDOWN
SAMPLE LETTER TO EDITOR
318 WORDS**



Dear Editor:

Drunk driving is one of America's deadliest crimes. In fact, during 2004, nearly 13,000 people were killed in highway crashes involving an impaired driver or motorcycle operator with an illegal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher. The picture for motorcycle operators is particularly bleak. Forty-one percent of the 1,672 motorcycle operators who died in single-vehicle crashes in 2004 had BAC levels of .08 or higher.

That's why local law enforcement officials will be out in force during August and the Labor Day holiday to launch an aggressive new crackdown on impaired drivers called: *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.*

Driving with a BAC of .08 or higher is illegal in every state. Although drunk driving fatalities across the nation slightly declined in 2003 and 2004, alcohol-related fatalities are projected to increase in 2005. Moreover, according to the FBI's Uniform Crime Report, more than 1.4 million people were arrested for driving under the influence during 2004.

Our message is simple. No matter what you drive – a passenger car, pickup, sport utility vehicle or motorcycle – if we catch you driving impaired, we will arrest you. No exceptions. No excuses. Far too many people still don't understand that alcohol, drugs and driving just don't mix. Drunk driving is no accident—nor is it a victimless crime. Too many lives are being lost so we will be out in force to stop it.

Drunk driving is simply not worth the risk. Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for impaired driving can be significant. Violators often face jail time, the loss of their driver's license, higher insurance rates, attorney fees, time away from work, and dozens of other expenses.

Don't take the chance. Drunk driving is a serious crime. Remember: *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.*

For more information, visit www.StopImpairedDriving.org.

***Name, address and phone number.
(The newspaper must have these to
verify the identity of the sender,
but won't print the street address
or phone number.)***

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