

KWANZAA HOLIDAY PLANNER TALKING POINTS



Q: Why is it so important that we avoid drinking and driving?

- Impaired driving is one of America's deadliest problems. Too many people still don't understand that alcohol, drugs, and driving don't mix.
- Impaired driving is no accident – nor is it a victimless crime. In one instant, you can lose your license, your freedom, or your life.
- In 2005, 16,885 people died and over 250,000 were injured in alcohol-related crashes. That works out to 1 death every 31 minutes, and 1 injury every 2 minutes.

Q: What are the consequences of impaired driving?

A: The tragedies and costs from drinking and driving impaired do not just end with the potential death, disfigurement, disability, and injury caused by impaired drivers. Driving impaired or riding with someone who is impaired is not worth the risk. The consequences are serious and real. Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for driving while impaired can be significant. Violators often face jail time, the loss of their driver's license, higher insurance rates, and dozens of other unanticipated expenses from attorney fees, fines and court costs, car towing and repairs, lost time at work, etc.

Q: What is *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest?*

A: *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.* is a national impaired driving crackdown. Law enforcement will be out in full force conducting sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols to catch, arrest and prosecute impaired drivers as part of this aggressive enforcement blitz.

Q: What are some tips for a safer driving experience?

A: Always follow these tips for a safer outing:

- Designate your sober driver before going out.
- Don't even think about driving when impaired – and never let your friends drive if you think they are impaired.
- If you become impaired, ask a sober friend for a ride home, use mass transit, call a cab or your local sober rides program, or just stay where you are and sleep it off until you are sober.
- And of course, always remember to wear your safety belt. It is still your single best defense against injury or death in a crash.