

STANISLAUS COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: CONTACT:

October 22, 2010 Mike Hamasaki, Division Director

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STANISLAUS COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT TO COMBAT DUI DEATHS AND INJURIES THROUGH INTENSIVE SUPERVISION OF HIGH RISK OFFENDERS

The Stanislaus County Probation Department has been awarded a new traffic safety grant for a yearlong anti-DUI program aimed at preventing deaths and injuries on our roadways. Additional enforcement measures to combat impaired driving are coming as a result of a recent \$47,860 grant awarded by the California Office of Traffic Safety to Stanislaus County.

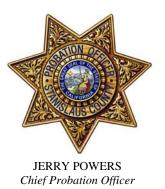
"Continued funding for this program will allow our department to further deter adult probationers from driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs and provide a higher level of community safety," said Jerry Powers, Stanislaus County Chief Probation Officer.

The Intensive Probation Supervision for High-Risk Felony and Repeat DUI Offenders grant will help reduce the number of persons killed and injured in alcohol and other drug related collisions in the community. The grant will focus on monitoring individuals on probation for felony DUI and multiple misdemeanor DUI convictions. Supervision for high-risk DUI offenders will include unannounced home searches, random alcohol and drug testing and monitoring to ensure compliance with court-ordered DUI education and treatment programs.

(more)

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The Stanislaus County Probation Department will also collaborate with other local law enforcement agencies to conduct DUI/Driver license checkpoints. surveillance and apprehension of offenders who drive without a license and warrant service operations targeting individuals who fail to make court appearances after DUI arrests.

Drunk driving is one of America's deadliest crimes. In 2009, over 10,839 people died in highway crashes involving a driver or motorcycle operator with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher. California data for 2009 shows that 950 died in Alcohol Impaired Collisions, a 7.6 percent reduction in deaths from 2008.

"Everyone in California should be heartened by these figures," said Christopher J. Murphy, Director of the California Office of Traffic Safety. "But as encouraging as this is, we can't let up on the efforts to promote and enforce traffic safety. Far too many are still losing their lives or being severely injured on our roadways."

"These figures represent more people making it home safely and alive each day," said Murphy. "But to keep this trend going, we will continue to strive to meet our vision - Toward zero deaths, every 1 counts."

Funding for this program is from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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