



Boone County Traffic Safety Partnership
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Boone County Traffic Safety Partnership to increase impaired driving enforcement ahead of Labor Day

Boone County, Indiana — As summer winds down, The Boone County Traffic Safety Partnership (BCTSP) is partnering with [the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute](#) (ICJI) to increase patrols and conduct sobriety checkpoints as part of the annual [Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over](#) national enforcement campaign, supported by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Through the Comprehensive Highway Injury Reduction Program (CHIRP), an ICJI initiative that provides federal funding for local traffic safety enforcement, officers statewide will work overtime beginning August 19 through September 7, 2026, to identify and stop motorists under the influence of drugs and alcohol.

“Our officers are seeing the consequences of impaired driving far too often,” said Boone County Sheriff, Tony Harris. “As we enter the final weeks of summer, we’re asking every driver to make responsible decisions. A sober ride isn’t just the safest option—it’s the choice that saves lives.”

Preliminary data from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) shows that in 2025, nearly 23% of Indiana’s traffic fatalities involved alcohol, and more than 41% involved drug impairment.

“Impaired driving continues to be one of the most serious threats on our roadways, and we’re focused on reducing these tragedies through education and enforcement,” said Douglas Huntsinger, executive director of the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. “This year’s Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign reminds everyone that impaired driving is preventable. When you choose a sober ride, you’re helping protect your community and ensuring everyone makes it home safely.”

In Indiana, it is illegal to drive with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher, although drivers can be arrested at any BAC level if an officer believes they are impaired.

Have a Plan Whether You're Driving, Riding, or Hosting:

- Before drinking, plan a safe and sober ride home.
- Don’t let someone get behind the wheel if they’ve been drinking.
- If you’re hosting a gathering, make sure all your guests have a sober ride home.
- If you see an impaired driver, call 911. Always wear your seat belt — it’s your best defense against impaired drivers.

The “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” enforcement campaign, administered by ICJI, is supported with federal traffic safety funds provided by the United States Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. For more information on impaired driving, visit www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drunk-driving.

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About the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute

The Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) is the state planning agency for criminal justice, juvenile justice, traffic safety and victim services. ICJI is designated as the state administering agency for distribution of federal funds and as the state Statistical Analysis Center for research. ICJI is responsible for coordinating and collaborating with local, state and federal entities to identify, assess, plan, resource and evaluate new and emerging issues facing the criminal justice and public safety spectrum. Visit www.cji.in.gov to learn more about the agency.

About the Boone County Traffic Safety Partnership

The BCTSP is comprised of the Boone County Sheriff’s Office, Jamestown Police Department, Lebanon Police Department, Thorntown Police Department, Whitestown Police Department, and Zionsville Police Department. The BCTSP's participation in CITLI, DUITF, SAVE, and VSET will address the problem of decreasing the number of motorists killed and injured on Indiana roadways related to seat belt usage, impaired driving, distracted driving, aggressive driving, and speed.

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