



PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION  
1200 Clark Ave.  
St. Louis, Missouri 63103  
(314) 444-5603

**NEWS RELEASE**

**METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Service, Integrity, Leadership, and Fair Treatment to All

December 11, 2009

**Metropolitan Police Department Cracks Down on Impaired Drivers**

The Metropolitan Police Department, City of St. Louis received a grant from the Missouri Department of Transportation's Highway Safety Division for participation in the "You Drink & Drive. You Lose.," campaign to combat impaired driving during the holiday season. Enforcement efforts will be increased December 7-13 and will focus on reducing deaths and serious injuries by impaired drivers.

"It's never worth the risk to drive while under the influence of drugs or alcohol," said Police Chief Dan Isom. "Drivers could lose their license, pay large fines, or worse, cause a tragic loss of life. Our officers will work to ensure the roadways in St. Louis are safe from impaired drivers during the holiday season."

Some of the consequences for those caught driving while intoxicated include:

- For the first conviction (or first conviction in more than five years), license is suspended for 30 days followed by a 60-day suspension if a hardship license is not obtained
- A second conviction can result in a \$1000 fine, loss of license for one year or up to a year in jail. You can also be required to install an ignition interlock system on your vehicle, preventing your car from starting when alcohol is detected on the driver's breath
- Third and subsequent convictions can result in a \$5000 fine, 10-year license denial and/or up to seven years in jail
- If you cause a fatal crash while intoxicated, you could be charged with Involuntary Manslaughter, punishable by up to seven years in jail and/or a \$5000 fine

#