



# WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**Conserving the Peace Through Values Driven Service  
Sheriff Pat Garrett**

## Media Release

### **Update – Deputies Arrest 10 DUII Drivers during Fourth of July Holiday, Remind Public to Not Use Illegal Fireworks**

July 5, 2017 – Between the dates of July 1 through July 5, deputies conducted enhanced patrols focused on driving under the influence of intoxicants (DUII). During that period, deputies arrested a total of 10 DUII drivers. One of those arrests was for driving under the influence of narcotics, and two of those arrests were for felony DUIIs.

The arrest and apprehension of DUII drivers is an enforcement priority for the sheriff's office. On average, deputies arrest 1,000 impaired drivers each year. DUII is a 100% preventable crime.

Deputies would also like to remind the public to not use illegal fireworks. Use of illegal fireworks can result in arrest, citation, and possibly civil liability. Fireworks can be forfeited at any fire station, no questions asked.

The original Fourth of July holiday media releases are below.

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### **Enhanced Sheriff's DUII Patrols over Fourth of July Weekend**

June 30, 2017 – Washington County Sheriff's Office deputies, in partnership with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), will be providing extra patrols on the road to enhance safety over the Fourth of July weekend.

In addition to extra patrols over the holiday weekend focused on impaired driving, deputies will also be looking for drivers that are speeding, following too closely, and distracted drivers using mobile communication devices. The enhanced patrols will continue through the entire month of July. The results of the enhanced patrol will be provided after the holiday weekend.





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## **Conserving the Peace Through Values Driven Service Sheriff Pat Garrett**

During holiday weekends, Washington County Sheriff's Office deputies respond to numerous traffic-related incidents that could have been avoided. Deputies are reminding drivers to designate a sober driver, slow down, avoid distractions, and allow adequate following distances.

The Washington County Sheriff's Office would like everyone to have a safe and happy Fourth of July weekend. Please remember to be safe and considerate while enjoying the holiday.

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### **Sheriff's Office Promotes a Safe Fourth of July Holiday**

June 29, 2017 – The Washington County Sheriff's Office would like everyone to have a safe and enjoyable Fourth of July holiday.

Every year, sheriff's deputies respond to complaints of holiday gatherings and other celebrations that get out of hand due to intoxication and illegal fireworks. These complaints include injuries, property damage, and neighborhood disturbances. Pets and small children are also affected by loud noises from illegal fireworks, which are often used late into the night. The public should also consider that damage or injury caused by a careless act involving fireworks can bring significant civil liability.

Oregon law bans possession, use, or sale of fireworks that fly, explode, or travel more than six feet on the ground or 12 inches into the air. Fireworks commonly referred to as bottle rockets, roman candles, and firecrackers are illegal in Oregon. Using or possessing illegal fireworks in Oregon is a class C misdemeanor. The Oregon State Fire Marshal's provides information on legal and illegal fireworks.

Fire marshals with Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue (TVF&R) support enforcement by deputies and our agencies will be working closely together over the holiday to promote education and provide enforcement in the community.

Please remember to be safe, legal, and considerate while celebrating Independence Day.