



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Police departments throughout Dauphin County to conduct Saint Patrick's holiday DUI enforcement

Lower Paxton Township, PA (March 7, 2024) – Dauphin County will have 11 police departments, along with the Pennsylvania State Police, conducting impaired driving enforcement operations over the St. Patrick's Day holiday, which runs from March 8 through March 17.

Participating police departments include Harrisburg; Lower Paxton, Derry, Lower Swatara, Susquehanna and Swatara townships; and Highspire, Hummelstown, Steelton Middletown, and Penbrook boroughs.

These operations will include DUI roving patrols and/or sobriety checkpoints. Law enforcement reminds drivers that Pennsylvania's legal alcohol limit is .08 for most drivers, .04 for commercial vehicles and .02 for school bus operators. Responsible adults need to be aware of the alcohol content of what they are consuming, and to remember that impairment begins with that first drink – Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving.

Under an agreement with Dauphin County Commissioners George P. Hartwick, III, Justin Douglas and Mike Pries, the Lower Paxton Township Police Department is coordinating traffic safety initiatives with local police departments as part of a three-year, \$649,541 PennDOT grant. The grant reimburses local police departments for their officers' participation in special enforcement duties, such as the St. Patrick's Day holiday safety effort.

Dauphin County is committed to reducing the number of impaired driving crashes, injuries, and fatalities in our community.

Methods used to achieve this goal include:

- Conducting high visibility enforcement activity to deter motorists from driving impaired.
- Increasing public awareness of the dangers and consequences of driving impaired.
- Encouraging the use of shared ride services or designating a sober driver.
- Apprehending those who violate the laws of the Commonwealth.

The Police Traffic Services Enforcement Grant Program calls for police departments to enhance safety in four critical areas: aggressive driving, pedestrian safety, DUI, and seatbelt usage. The grant is from Pennsylvania's Highway Safety Program and is funded by part of PennDOT's investment of federal funds from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

- For more information on Pennsylvania's impaired driving laws, risks and consequences, visit PennDOT-Impaired Driving at <https://www.penndot.pa.gov/TravelInPA/Safety/TrafficSafetyAndDriverTopics/pages/impaired-driving.aspx>

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Lower Paxton Township is the largest municipality in Dauphin County and the 15th largest in Pennsylvania, covering a 28-square-mile area. To learn more, visit www.lowerpaxton-pa.gov and follow Lower Paxton on Facebook @LowerPaxtonTwp, Twitter @LowerPaxtonTwp & Instagram @lowerpaxtontownship