

# JUNEAU POLICE DEPARTMENT

6255 ALAWAY AVENUE ○ JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

Greg Browning  
Chief of Police

*Committed to Service and Excellence*

Business (907) 586-0600  
Fax (907) 463-4808

## INFORMATION RELEASE

**Subject:** Labor Day Drunk Driving Enforcement      **Date:** August 7, 2007

**From:** Greg Browning      **Case or Incident #** None

### Summary:

Impaired driving is one of America's most-often-committed and deadliest crimes. Overall in 2004, more than 15,000 people died in highway crashes involving a driver or motorcycle operator with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .01 or higher. Of those, nearly 13,000 were in crashes where the driver's BAC was .08 or higher. That's why the Juneau Police Department will be out in force in Juneau this Labor Day weekend cracking down on drunk drivers.

Fortunately, much of the tragedy that comes from impaired driving crashes could be prevented if everyone would take a few simple precautions. Here are a few these tips for a safe Labor Day weekend:

- Whenever you plan on consuming alcohol, designate a sober driver before going out and give that person your keys;
- If you're impaired, call a taxi, use mass transit or call a sober friend or family member to get you home safely;
- Promptly report drunk drivers you see on the roadways to law enforcement;
- Wearing your safety belt while in a car or using a helmet and protective gear when on a motorcycle is your best defense against an impaired driver;
- And remember, *Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk*. If you know someone who is about to drive or ride while impaired, take their keys and help them make other arrangements to get to where they are going safely.

This increase in enforcement efforts is funded by the Alaska Highway Safety Office.

**Any charges reported in this press release are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.**

\*\*\* END OF STATEMENT \*\*\*

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