

**AUGUST/LABOR DAY CRACKDOWN
SAMPLE LETTER TO EDITOR
<TBD> WORDS**



Dear Editor:

Drunk driving is one of America's deadliest crimes. In fact, during 2005, nearly 13,000 people were killed in highway crashes involving a driver or motorcycle operator with an illegal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher. The picture for motorcycle operators is particularly bleak. Forty-one percent of the 1,878 motorcycle operators who died in single-vehicle crashes in 2005 had BAC levels of .08 or higher.

That's why local law enforcement officials will join with thousands of other law enforcement and highway safety agencies across the nation from August 17 and throughout the Labor Day holiday to take part in the *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.* crackdown on impaired driving.

Our message is simple. No matter what you drive—a passenger car, pickup, sport utility vehicle or motorcycle—if we catch you driving impaired, we will arrest you. No exceptions. No excuses. Far too many people still don't understand that alcohol, drugs and driving just don't mix.

Drunk driving is no accident—nor is it a victimless crime. We will be out in force conducting sobriety checkpoints, saturation patrols and using undercover officers to get more drunk drivers off the road—and save lives that might otherwise be lost.

Driving with a BAC of .08 or higher is illegal in every state. Yet we continue to see far too many people suffer debilitating injuries and loss of their loved ones as a result of impaired driving. This careless disregard for human life must stop. To help ensure that happens, our local law enforcement officers are dedicated to arresting impaired drivers wherever and whenever they find them.

Drunk driving is simply not worth the risk. Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for impaired driving can be significant. Violators often face jail time, the loss of their driver's license, higher insurance rates, attorney fees, time away from work, and dozens of other expenses.

Don't take the chance. Drunk driving is a serious crime. Remember: *Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.*

For more information, visit www.StopImpairedDriving.org.

Name, address and phone number. (The newspaper must have these to verify the identity of the sender, but won't print the street address or phone number.)

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