



BLOOMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



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Holiday cheers, not tears: Drive sober or get pulled over this season
'Click It or Ticket' and 'It's Not a Game' campaigns emphasize buckling up and safe driving

Bloomington, IL - The holiday season is a time for joy, connection and celebration. To help make sure those celebrations don't end in tragedy, the Bloomington Police Department is joining law enforcement agencies across Illinois in a major traffic safety effort.

From Dec. 12 through Jan. 5, our officers will take part in the statewide "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over," "Drive High. Get a DUI." and "Click It or Ticket" campaigns. These enforcement efforts are supported by the Illinois Department of Transportation's statewide outreach media program, "It's Not a Game," which reminds motorists that driving is serious business.

"This season, let's make safety our shared priority," said Chief Jamal Simington. "Consider the devastating consequences of choosing to drive intoxicated, an empty seat at your family's table. Value your family and friends more than the buzz. Plan ahead for a sober ride, always wear your seat belt, and remember that driving impaired isn't just dangerous, it's unacceptable."

The Bloomington Police Department urges everyone to take the following steps to prevent impaired driving and reduce the severity of crashes:

- **Plan ahead:** Designate a sober driver, use public transportation or arrange for a ride-sharing service.
- **Move over and slow down:** Keep the roads safe for emergency vehicles, tow trucks, and motorists pulled to the side of the roadway.
- **Report dangers:** If you spot an impaired driver, pull over safely and call the local law enforcement agency.
- **Be a hero:** Stop a friend from driving impaired by taking their keys and helping them get home safely.
- **Buckle up:** It's your best defense against impaired drivers and one of the simplest ways to save a life.
- **Slow down and stay focused:** Obey the speed limit and avoid distractions such as texting, scrolling or gaming while driving.

This campaign is made possible through federal highway safety funds administered by IDOT and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and is part of Illinois' "It's Not a Game" statewide media outreach program.

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Media Contact:

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Bloomington (IL) Police Department

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Career Opportunities

The Bloomington Police Department is currently hiring for the entry-level officer position. Individuals interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement are encouraged to apply and join our team in serving and protecting the community. For more information, visit join-bpd.com, email knowers@cityblm.org, or call 309-261-6018.

Crime Tips

If you wish to submit a crime tip and remain anonymous, please contact the Crime & Intelligence Analysis Unit (CIAU) at 309-434-2963 or email CIAU@cityblm.org. You can also text the number 847411 by texting the word "BPD TIPS", then a space, followed by your tip information.

The tip line is not monitored 24/7. The CIAU office is staffed from 8:00 am - 4:30 pm, weekdays. If no one is available to answer your call, please leave the information on the voicemail or send it by e-mail.

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