



## NEWS – Statewide Law Enforcement

For Immediate Release

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For more information: NDDOT Safety Public Information Specialist, (701) 328-4559 or contact local law enforcement (contact information can be provided on request.)

### **Added Labor Day DUI patrols resulted in 136 alcohol or drug-related arrests and citations within two weeks**

*Statewide* – Extra law enforcement patrols from August 21 through September 7 resulted in 1275 traffic stops across North Dakota with 136 arrests and/or citations being alcohol or drug-related. Thirty-eight law enforcement agencies, including the North Dakota Highway Patrol, added extra shifts leading up to Labor Day for the *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* Driving Under the Influence (DUI) enforcement crackdown to keep roadways safe during this busy travel time.

A total of 731 traffic citations were attributed to the added patrols with 73 accounting for DUI arrests or refusal of a test. There were another 34 arrests or citations for other alcohol-related violations and 29 drug-related arrests. Tickets for speeding were the largest portion of the citations at 273. The traffic stops also resulted in four felony arrests.

“By removing these individuals from the roads, there is no telling how many lives were saved,” said Karin Mongeon, Safety Division Director, North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT). “The way we see it, if we saved one life, the campaign was worthwhile.”

High-visibility enforcement for traffic safety is one element of a collaborative effort to eliminate motor vehicle deaths in North Dakota. Extra patrols have been shown effective in impaired driving prevention and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that high-visibility enforcement can reduce DUI fatalities up to 20 percent.

Funding for additional traffic safety enforcement is provided by federal grant money distributed through the NDDOT.

Learn more about traffic safety initiatives at [ndcodefortheroad.org](http://ndcodefortheroad.org) or join the conversation on the *Code for the Road* Facebook or Twitter page.

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