



2009-3

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION
SUPPORTS DWI COURTS**

WHEREAS, the maintenance and enhancement of public safety are the highest priorities of law enforcement agencies internationally; and

WHEREAS, the pervasive problem of impaired driving is a national threat to public safety; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), in 2007, an estimated 12,998 people were killed in alcohol-impaired driving crashes; and

WHEREAS, the law enforcement community has been committed to removing the impaired driver from the nation's roadways; and

WHEREAS, any impaired driving arrest will result in the offenders entering the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, the offender will appear in court; and the courts have unique opportunities to ensure accountability of substance abusers and to stop recidivism; and

WHEREAS, NHTSA has made DWI Courts an impaired driving priority; and

WHEREAS, DWI Courts employ the strategies of close supervision, frequent alcohol and other drug testing, and ongoing judicial interaction to integrate alcohol and other drug treatment services with the justice system; and

WHEREAS, DWI Courts ensure that substance abuse treatment is ordered and implemented on the basis of adequate information, in accordance with applicable law, and with due regard for the rights of the individual and of the public; and

WHEREAS, DWI Courts incorporate the 10 Guiding Principles, which define DWI Courts, as published by the National Center for DWI Courts; and

WHEREAS, DWI Courts will assist law enforcement in removing the impaired driver from our nation's roadways; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association support DWI Courts as promoted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association urges states to implement DWI Courts where appropriate.

Adopted at a Meeting of the General Membership in Ft. Lauderdale, FL on June 23, 2009.

National Sheriffs' Association 2009 Resolutions