



2011-13

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS INCREASED IMPAIRED DRIVING ENFORCEMENT

WHEREAS, the maintenance and enhancement of public safety are the highest priorities of the U.S. Department of Transportation and law enforcement agencies internationally;

WHEREAS, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), over 17,000 people were killed in 2006 in crashes involving alcohol, a substantial number of which had illegal BAC levels of .08 or above;

WHEREAS, increasing numbers of law enforcement officers are killed or injured yearly as a result of alcohol-related traffic crashes;

WHEREAS, research indicates that the effect of drugs, alone or in combination with alcohol, contribute significantly to the number of fatal and injury crashes;

WHEREAS, research has shown that strong laws - combined with sustained high visibility enforcement, including the use of Standardized Field Sobriety Testing, Drug Recognition Experts, and sobriety checkpoints - where permitted by law and departmental policy - not only reduce impaired driving but also reduce the incidence of other crimes;

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) supports the use of technologies to prevent impaired drivers from operating vehicles, including the use of alcohol ignition interlocks, transdermal alcohol recognition systems, infra-red alcohol detection devices and other technologies;

WHEREAS, the NSA recognizes both Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and NHTSA in their continued efforts to eradicate impaired driving;

WHEREAS, members of the NSA's Traffic Safety Committee and other law enforcement leaders have publicly committed to MADD's "Campaign to Eliminate Drunk Driving."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association encourages its members to sign MADD's "Pledge to Eliminate Drunk Driving" and to support MADD's "Campaign to Eliminate Drunk Driving," which advocates the following:

- Full support for high-visibility law enforcement
- Maximum implementation of alcohol ignition interlock technologies
- Advanced technology research initiatives
- Mobilization of grassroots efforts

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association eagerly supports the use of the International Association of Chiefs of Police Highway Safety Committee's Impaired Driving Guidebook: Three Keys to Renewed Focus and Success and NHTSA's Saturation Patrols & Sobriety Checkpoints Guide and Low-Staffing Sobriety Checkpoints as resource tools to eliminate impaired driving.

Adopted at a Meeting of the General Membership in St. Louis, MO on June 20, 2011.