

Beginning Friday, Dec. 14 and continuing through Jan. 1, 2013, the Nebraska State Patrol will take part in a nationwide effort to remove impaired drivers from our roadways. The "You Drink & Drive You Lose" campaign utilizes education and enforcement to raise awareness of the dangers of drinking and driving.

"Our message is really very simple," said Colonel David Sankey, Superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol. "We want you, to be home for the holidays. Help us keep your travels safe by never driving impaired. That extra holiday cheer isn't worth the heartache of a collision or the possibility of being arrested."

As part of the "You Drink and Drive You Lose" campaign, troopers and communications specialists will work overtime hours during the special enforcement which encompasses both the Christmas and New Year's holidays. A nearly \$28,000 grant from the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety (NOHS), will help to pay for the extra enforcement.

Motorists are reminded to always wear their seat belts, never drive impaired or distracted, obey the posted speed limit and never travel faster than conditions allow.

Travelers can keep up to date on the latest weather and road conditions by utilizing the Nebraska Advanced Traveler Information System website at www.511.nebraska.gov or by dialing 511 from any cellular phone or landline.

To report a reckless or impaired driver, or if you are in need of non-emergency roadside assistance call the NSP Highway Helpline when safe to do so, at (star) *55 from any cellular phone or 1-800-525-5555 from any landline.

Colonel Sankey said, "Our citizens are the key to keeping our roads safe through the holidays and every day. We thank you for your help, and wish you a happy holiday season."