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CITY OF KEARNEY **PRESS RELEASE** ***For Immediate Release***

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Give the Gift of Holiday Safety: Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over

The Kearney Police Department will be joining law enforcement agencies across the country during the “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” enforcement campaign. This operation will run December 15th, 2023 – January 1st, 2024. During this period, local law enforcement will show zero tolerance for drunk driving. Increased state and national messages about the dangers of driving impaired, coupled with enforcement and increased officers on the road, aim to drastically reduce drunk driving on our nation’s roadways.

Tragically, December can be a dangerous time for people on the roads. During the 2017-2021 December months, there were more than 4,500 people killed in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes. In December 2021 alone, 1,013 people died in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes. Male drivers are far more likely to be impacted by drunk driving: In December 2021, drunk male drivers were involved in fatal crashes at a much higher rate (721) compared to female drivers (208), male drivers were almost four times more likely (721) to be alcohol-impaired and involved in a fatal traffic crash than females (208) in December 2021. More parties and festivities celebrating the season brings out more drunk drivers. The Kearney Police Department urges drivers to always make a plan before heading out to a celebration.

Kearney’s participation in the impaired driving enforcement is funded through a grant from the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety.

Check out our web site at www.cityofkearney.org.

We are sending this News Release as a service to the news media and citizens of Kearney.

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