

# 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY BUZZED DRIVING IS DRUNK DRIVING

This Independence Day holiday, we all enjoy being with family, friends, food, and fireworks, it can also be one of the deadliest holidays of the year due to drunk-driving crashes.

In 2019, 515 people died in motor vehicle crashes over the July 4th holiday period (6 p.m. July 3 – 5:59 a.m. July 8, 2019).

Thirty-eight percent (198) of those fatalities occurred in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes.

## THE COST OF DRUNK DRIVING

- On average, a *DUI* can set you back \$10,000 in attorney's fees, fines, court costs, lost time at work, higher insurance rates, and more.
- The financial impact from impaired-driving crashes is devastating. Based on 2010 numbers (the most recent year for which cost data is available), *impaired-driving crashes cost the United States \$44 billion annually.*
- If you are caught drinking and driving, *you can face jail time.* Imagine trying to explain that to your friends and family or your place of employment.
- *Drinking and driving can cause you to lose your driver's license and your vehicle.* This could inhibit you from getting to work, resulting in lost wages and, potentially, job loss.

## CELEBRATE WITH A PLAN

Always remember to plan if you will be celebrating. If you plan to drink, plan for a sober driver to take you home. Is it your turn to be the designated driver? Take that role seriously and do not consume alcohol, not even one drink.

- Remember that it is *never okay to drink and drive.* Even if you have had only one alcoholic beverage, designate a sober driver or plan to use public transportation or a ride service to get home safely.
- If available, *use your community's sober ride program.*
- If you see a drunk driver on the road, contact local law enforcement.
- Do you have a friend who is about to drink and drive? *Take the keys away* and decide to get your friend home safely.

This Fourth of July, commit to only driving when you are 100% sober. As you head out to celebrate, remember:

**BUZZED DRIVING IS DRUNK DRIVING.**



TRIBAL INJURY  
PREVENTION  
RESOURCE CENTER

For more information:

[www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/drunk-driving/buzzed-driving-drunk-driving/4th-july](http://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/drunk-driving/buzzed-driving-drunk-driving/4th-july)

Sources: Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving, Designate a Sober driver

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