

## VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT Colleen Mestas, Chief of Police

Sergeant Amy Watkins, Public Information Officer (559) 713-4216 (office) / (559) 713-4807 (fax) awatkins@ci.visalia.ca.us

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## Avoid the 18 Tulare and Kings County



## WINTER HOLIDAY AVOID DUI CAMPAIGN – FINAL REPORT

The 2012/13 Winter Holiday DUI Mobilization crackdown on impaired drivers has ended and resulted in a significant number of DUI arrests from the Sobriety Checkpoints, Special Saturation Patrols and routine patrol in Tulare and Kings Counties "Avoid the 18" DUI Campaign for the past 19 days.

From 12:01 AM Friday December 14th, through Midnight Tuesday January 1, 2013 officers representing Tulare and Kings county law enforcement agencies have arrested 111 individuals for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. In 2011/12 183 DUI arrests occurred during the same time period. There were no DUI related fatal collisions reported during this time.

These numbers are in comparison to last year's totals during the holiday period. Law enforcement officials will be conducting more Avoid DUI operations throughout the two counties and region during Super Bowl Sunday in February and then again for local St Patrick's Day Festivities in March. Police, Sheriff and the CHP encourage all motorists to help law enforcement every day: Report Drunk Drivers – Call 9-1-1 anytime you encounter an impaired driver.

DUI Checkpoints, along with regularly scheduled high visibility DUI enforcement, are proven strategies with the goal of removing impaired drivers from the road and heightening awareness of the dangers of driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), sobriety checkpoint programs can yield considerable cost savings: \$6 for every \$1 spent.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



