

**"BOOZE IT & LOSE IT" YIELDS 986 DWI ARRESTS IN FOURTH WEEK
More than 31,000 traffic and criminal citations issued Dec. 5-11**

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RALEIGH-- Statewide, law enforcement officers last week arrested 986 motorists for driving while impaired, including 131 underage drinking drivers. A total of 3,582 motorists have been arrested for DWI since "Booze It & Lose It" began on Nov. 17.

"Our law enforcement officers continue to work hard patrolling our roads this holiday season," said Darrell Jernigan, director of the Governor's Highway Safety Program. "Officers will be out in full force until the New Year in an effort to keep North Carolina citizens and travelers safe."

Nearly, 2,300 checkpoints and stepped-up patrols were conducted statewide between Dec. 5-11. Counties with the highest number of DWI citations include Wake with 100 and Mecklenburg with 104.

In addition to cracking down on impaired drivers, officers last week issued 2,399 safety belt and 341 child passenger safety violations. Among the 31,047 total traffic and criminal citations reported were 9,764 speeding violations and 682 drug charges. Officers also recovered 27 stolen vehicles and 45 fugitives from justice.

"Booze It & Lose It" Statewide Totals

| | DWI | Occupant Protection | | Traffic Violations | | Criminal Violations | | Totals | Other Offenses* | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| | Driving While Impaired Violations | Seat Belt Violations | Child Passenger Safety Violations | Speeding | Total Traffic Violations | Drug Violations | Total Criminal Violations | Total Traffic & Criminal Violations | Stolen Vehicles Recovered | Fugitives Arrested |
| 1,250 (Nov. 18-20) | 586 | 1,378 | 222 | 5,574 | 13,314 | 324 | 742 | 16,242 | 25 | 8 |
| 2,385 (Nov. 21-27) | 955 | 2,338 | 404 | 13,304 | 28,419 | 571 | 1,565 | 33,681 | 40 | 16 |
| 2,347 (Nov. 28-Dec. 4) | 1,053 | 2,045 | 412 | 10,202 | 26,967 | 618 | 1,889 | 32,366 | 62 | 13 |
| 2,255 (Dec. 5-11) | 986 | 2,399 | 341 | 9,764 | 25,548 | 682 | 1,773 | 31,047 | 27 | 45 |

*These columns are not counted into overall total of violations.
Data compiled by the North Carolina State Highway Patrol.

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For county-by-county citation data or information regarding other North Carolina highway safety issues, call Beth Horner at 919-733-3083, or visit our web site at: www.ncdot.org/secretary/ghsp