

**GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES NEARLY 2,600 DWI ARRESTS
IN FIRST THREE WEEKS OF WINTER "BOOZE IT & LOSE IT" CAMPAIGN**

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Gov. Mike Easley today announced that 2,596 motorists statewide have been charged with driving while impaired (DWI) offenses during the first three weeks of the winter "Booze It & Lose It" campaign. The arrests were made by state and local law enforcement officers during checkpoints and stepped-up patrols between Nov. 17 and Dec. 4.

"I am grateful to the hundreds of law enforcement officers across our state who are working around the clock to remove impaired drivers from our roadways," Easley said. "These arrests should serve as a reminder to people during the holiday season. If your celebrations include alcohol and you plan to drink, be sure that you have a designated driver."

"Booze It & Lose It" is in its 11th year as a program of the Governor's Highway Safety Program (GHSP). It serves as the model for the national "You Drink, You Drive, You Lose" initiative.

As part of the winter enforcement campaign, nearly 6,000 checkpoints and patrols have been conducted statewide. A total of 372 DWI charges were made against drivers younger than 21 and 2,224 charges were made against drivers 21 and older.

In addition to DWI charges, officers issued 6,804 occupant restraint charges, including safety belt and child passenger safety violations. A total of 29,116 speeding violations also were issued, 127 stolen vehicles were recovered and 37 wanted persons were apprehended. Traffic and criminal violations issued for the state totaled 82,400.

"Booze It & Lose It" will continue through Jan. 1, 2006. Statewide citation totals include:

"Booze It & Lose It" Statewide Totals

"Booze It & Lose It" Statewide Totals

	DWI	Occupant Restraint		Traffic Violations		Criminal Violations		Totals	Other Offenses*	
		Seat Belt Violations	Child Passenger Safety Violations	Speeding	Total Traffic Violations	Drug Violations	Total Criminal Violations		Total Traffic & Criminal Violations	Stolen Vehicles Recovered
Total Check points and Patrols	Driving While Impaired Violations	1,378	222	5,574	13,314	324	742	16,242	25	8
1,250 (Nov. 18-20)	586	2,338	404	13,304	28,419	571	1,565	33,681	40	16
2,385 (Nov. 21-27)	955	2,045	412	10,202	26,967	618	1,889	32,366	62	13

28- Dec.4)										
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*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