



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
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**LAW ENFORCEMENT CRACKING DOWN ON IMPAIRED DRIVERS THIS HALLOWEEN**

**RALEIGH** — Last year, more than 40 percent of highway fatalities across the nation on Halloween night involved an impaired driver, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

From 6 o'clock on Halloween night until 6 a.m. the following day, 41 percent of these fatalities involved a driver with a blood alcohol concentration of .08 or higher, which is illegal in every state. In North Carolina alone, there were one fatality and 21 injuries due to alcohol-related crashes.

The Governor's Highway Safety Program and law enforcement officers statewide have planned an aggressive crackdown on impaired drivers this Halloween. The Halloween "Booze It & Lose It" campaign began Oct. 27 and ends tonight.

"Halloween should be a time for costumes, trick or treating with kids, and family fun," said Darrell Jernigan, director of the GHSP "But unfortunately, some people are breaking the law and driving impaired."

For a safer Halloween, GHSP offers these reminders:

- Designate a sober driver before going out and give that person your car keys;
- If you are impaired, call a taxi, use mass transit or call a sober friend or family member to help get you home safely;
- Promptly report drunk drivers you see on the roadways to law enforcement;
- Always buckle up—to keep yourself and others safe in the event of a crash;
- **Remember**, *Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk*. If you know someone who is about to drive while impaired, take their keys and help them make other arrangements to get to where they are going safely.

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For more information regarding "Booze It & Lose It," contact Beth Horner of the Governor's Highway Safety Program at (919) 733-3083, or visit their Web site at

[www.ncdot.org/secretary/ghsp](http://www.ncdot.org/secretary/ghsp).