

For more information, contact: Sarah Lock Director of Strategic Communications, City of Beloit 608-364-6726 or locks@beloitwi.gov

Rock County Impaired Driving Task Force Upcoming Deployment Dates

December 15, 2021 – Law enforcement officers from several Rock County agencies will be looking to prevent impaired driving. Rock County Impaired Driving Enforcement Task Force is deploying on the following dates:

- Friday, December 31
- Saturday, January 1, 2022
- Friday, January 14, 2022
- Saturday, January 22, 2022

During this additional enforcement, the participating agencies will have more officers on patrol to discourage people from driving while impaired. There will be zero tolerance for driving under the influence, open intoxicants, seatbelt violations and improper use of child safety restraints.

The goal of this high-visibility enforcement is to encourage drivers to make an alternative plan so they don't drive while drunk or high.

"By choosing to get behind the wheel while impaired, drivers are putting the lives of everyone around them at risk," said Beloit Police Sgt. Eric Rohrer. "Our goal is to reduce the number of impaired drivers in Beloit and send the message that driving under the influence is never acceptable. We want to see each and every person get home safely each and every day."

Driving under the influence includes the use of alcohol, illegal drugs or prescription medication.

All motorists can take steps to protect themselves and others:

- Ensure everyone in your vehicle is buckled up every day, every trip. Watch your speed, be patient and alert.
- If you plan to use any alcohol, drugs or prescription medication that will impair your driving, choose a sober designated driver.

- If you're feeling buzzed, you likely are over the 0.08 BAC limit and should not drive. Take
 public transit, a taxicab, or ask a sober friend to drive you home.
- The Wisconsin DOT offers a free <u>Drive Sober mobile app</u> that includes a blood alcohol estimator, designated driver selector, and find-a-ride feature that uses a smart phone's GPS to locate alternative transportation.
- Some taverns and restaurants have programs to provide patrons with a safe ride home. Visit <u>www.tlw.org/</u> and click on Safe Ride.
- Report impaired drivers to law enforcement by calling 911. Provide as much detail as possible on the driver, vehicle, and location.

The Rock County Impaired Driving Enforcement Task Force includes the Rock County Sheriff's Department and the Janesville, Town of Beloit, City of Beloit, Town of Turtle, Clinton and Orfordville police departments. Funding for the special enforcement periods is provided via a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

###