



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Police Focus on Holiday Crime, Underage Drinking and Safe Driving

Starting tomorrow, the Howard County Police Department will launch a multi-faceted enforcement plan in order to keep citizens who are living, working, driving and shopping in Howard County safe during the holidays. The plan includes increased personnel and patrols in shopping centers, as well as focused enforcement of all traffic laws and underage drinking laws.

Typically, the police department sees an increase in robberies, thefts, and shoplifting incidents around the holidays. Police also are met with an increased number of parties where underage drinking is prevalent. These parties often lead to an escalated number of incidents of drinking and driving.

This holiday season, the police department is placing additional officers in the village centers and shopping areas in order to serve as a deterrent for crime and provide a swift response to any incident that may occur. Uniformed and undercover officers will be utilized to accomplish the department's goals.

Specialized units within the police department also will monitor liquor establishments to ensure that they do not sell alcohol to anyone under the age of 21. Detectives will aggressively seek out parties where adults may be providing liquor to anyone underage. Additional officers will focus on identifying and arresting drunk drivers on county roadways.

The department also will emphasize traffic safety during this holiday season. With the increased number of shoppers and visitors coming to Howard County this season, the department wants to ensure that no one is injured from a preventable traffic collision. Officers will be working speed and aggressive driving details throughout the remainder of the month.

The police department wishes everyone a safe and happy holiday!

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