



## VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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### Avoid the 18 Tulare and Kings County DUI Campaign

#### SUMMER/LABOR DAY AVOID DUI CAMPAIGN – FINAL REPORT

From August 15 to September 1, you probably noticed the Avoid the 18 DUI Task Force out in full force, targeting one of the deadliest killers on the road: drunk driving. The enforcement was part of the national “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” campaign, to save lives and make our roads safer. DUI enforcement resulted in far too many drunk driving arrests and citations countywide over the past 18 days.

From 12:01 AM Friday August 15th, through Midnight Monday September 1, 2014 officers **representing 10** county law enforcement agencies have arrested 152 individuals for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. In 2013 101 DUI arrests occurred during the same time period. (These numbers are provisional, not all agencies have reported yet.)

If everyone would drive sober, thousands of lives could be saved each year. In 2012 alone, there were 10,322 people killed in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes in the United States. California’s deaths stood at 802 that year. That’s almost a third of all the traffic crash fatalities for the year.

The Tulare and Kings County DUI Task Force and thousands of law enforcement agencies around the country teamed up with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration on the high-visibility enforcement campaign this year. The annual effort aims to reduce drunk driving year-round, not just on those few days. The campaign may be over, but the warning remains: *‘Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.’*

Law enforcement officials will be conducting more anti-DUI efforts throughout the county and region again during Halloween and Thanksgiving Eve before planning for the December Winter DUI Mobilization. Police, Sheriff and the CHP encourage all motorists to help make your community safer: Report Drunk Drivers – Call 911! anytime you encounter a dangerous impaired driver.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

