



State of Illinois
 JB Pritzker • Governor
Illinois Department of Transportation
 Omer Osman • Secretary
Illinois State Police
 Brendan F. Kelly • Director



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Oct. 27, 2022

CONTACT:

Paul Wappel (IDOT) 217.685.0082
 Maria Castaneda (IDOT) 312.447.1919
ISP.PIO.Personnel@illinois.gov 217.524.2500

This Halloween, treat yourself to a sober ride home

IDOT teaming up with ISP, local police to deter monstrous driving

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Transportation, the Illinois State Police and local law enforcement are reminding motorists that becoming an impaired driving monster can lead to costly consequences this Halloween. The message is simple – “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” and “Drive High. Get a DUI.”

“Don’t let this Halloween turn into a horror-able memory. If someone has been drinking, using cannabis or any other impairing substance, don’t let them trick you into letting them drive,” said Cynthia Watters, IDOT’s bureau chief of Safety Programs and Engineering. “Instead, let a sober friend or family member treat you to a safe ride home.”

As of Oct. 20, 1,005 people have died on Illinois roads, according to IDOT provisional data – 68 fewer than on the same date a year ago. However, while crash fatalities are lower than this time last year, they are significantly higher than they were in 2020 and previous years.

“Halloween is scary enough without adding impaired driving to the mix,” said ISP Director Brendan F. Kelly. “Don’t be haunted by a bad decision. Drive sober, put the phone down and wear your seat belt. The best treat you can give or receive this Halloween is making it home safe.”

Before donning your costume, plan for a safe way home. Other important tips:

- If you are impaired, call a cab, use a ride-sharing service or mass transit.
- Promptly report impaired drivers by pulling over and dialing 911.
- Make sure everyone in your vehicle wears their seat belt. It’s the best defense in a crash.

Law enforcement will use federal highway safety funds distributed by IDOT to carry out the statewide campaign, which runs through Oct. 31. The effort coincides with IDOT’s “It’s Not a Game” radio, digital and TV campaign that reminds motorists of the consequences of impaired driving as well as distracted driving, work zone safety, pedestrian safety, motorcycle awareness and occupant safety. Visit www.itsnotagameillinois.com for more information.

##