NORTH Dakota | Highway Patrol
Be Legendary.™

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | Sept. 8, 2020

SOBRIETY CHECKPOINT AND SATURATION PATROL MERCER COUNTY UPDATE

On Sept. 5, 2020, the North Dakota Highway Patrol conducted a sobriety checkpoint from 9:00 pm -11:00 pm at the intersection of Hwy 1806 and County Road 21 in Mercer County. The goal of the sobriety checkpoint was to deter motorists from driving impaired. During the 2-hour checkpoint, 67 vehicles passed through the checkpoint: four drivers were evaluated for impairment and one driver was arrested for driving under the influence. Troopers distributed educational materials about the consequences of driving impaired to all those stopped at the checkpoint.

SOBRIETY CHECKPOINT AND SATURATION PATROL MERCER COUNTY

NARRATIVE: On Saturday, Sept. 5, the North Dakota Highway Patrol will conduct a sobriety checkpoint and saturation patrol in Mercer County to remove impaired drivers from the road. Impaired driving and impaired driving related motor vehicle crashes continue to be a major threat to the safety of the motoring public throughout North Dakota. Through August 24 of this year, there have been 59 fatal crashes on North Dakota roads resulting in 62 fatalities. Eighteen of these fatalities are related to crashes where a driver tested positive for alcohol.

Sgt. Travis Skar stated, "Alcohol and drug-related crashes are 100% preventable. Lives would be saved in North Dakota if every driver consistently makes the choice to always drive sober." The North Dakota Highway Patrol is committed to the Vision Zero strategy which aims to establish a culture of personal responsibility where motor vehicle fatalities and serious injuries are recognized as preventable. The strategy encourages all motorists to take personal responsibility for their safety and the safety of others on the road by driving sober, wearing seatbelts, and driving distraction-free. Results from these planned enforcements will be released next week.

_____

For More Information Contact:
Sergeant Travis Skar (701) 328-2467
tmskar@nd.gov