NEWS RELEASE | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | May 20, 2021
GRAND FORKS AREA SOBRIETY CHECKPOINT AND SATURATION PATROL

NARRATIVE: On Friday, May 28, the North Dakota Highway Patrol and Grand Forks Sheriff's Office will conduct a sobriety checkpoint and saturation patrol in the Grand Forks area to remove impaired drivers from the road. In addition, saturation patrols will be conducted Friday, May 28, and Saturday, May 29. The goal of the checkpoint and saturation patrol is to remove the threat of impaired drivers and impaired driving related motor vehicle crashes.

Through May 15 of this year, there have been 25 fatal crashes on North Dakota roads resulting in 30 fatalities. Eleven of these fatalities are related to crashes involving alcohol.

NDHP Regional Sergeant Ryan Panasuk stated, "We want to assure safe roadways for all users of North Dakota's roadways. Since alcohol and drug-related crashes are 100\% preventable, lives can be saved if every driver consistently makes the choice to always drive sober." Law enforcement encourages everyone to plan to arrive home safely by designating a sober driver before you go out or use a ride sharing service.

The North Dakota Highway Patrol is committed to the Vision Zero strategy which aims to establish a culture of personal responsibility for personal safety and the safety of others on the road by driving sober; wearing seatbelts; and driving distraction-free. Results from this planned enforcement will be released within a week of the event.

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