

NEWS RELEASE | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | October 31, 2022

Williams County Enforcement Event UPDATE

RESULTS: Approximately 300 vehicles went through the checkpoint which was located on 26th St W, near the 1500 block in Williston. The checkpoint was conducted from 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm. Seven drivers were tested for impairment and four were arrested for DUI. In addition, there was one drug possession arrest, one fake ID arrest, and one open container citation issued. Following the checkpoint, saturation patrols were conducted which resulted in two additional DUI arrests and one additional drug arrest.

NARRATIVE: On Saturday, Oct. 29, the North Dakota Highway Patrol, the Williams County Sheriff's Office, and the Williston Police Department will conduct a sobriety checkpoint at a predetermined location in Williams County.

Impaired driving and impaired driving related motor vehicle crashes are a major threat to the safety of those traveling on North Dakota's roadways. Through October 17 of this year, there have been 85 fatal crashes on North Dakota roads resulting in 87 fatalities. Eighteen of these fatalities (20.7%) were alcohol related. The sobriety checkpoint reflects NDHP's ongoing efforts to maintain roadway safety by targeting specific times and locations to have a greater impact at reducing incidence of impaired driving.

NDHP Northwest Trooper Preston Langer stated, "Impaired driving is completely preventable; all it takes is a little planning. Our message is clear: Never drive impaired. We encourage motorists to ensure their safety and the safety of others on our roadways by designating a sober driver or arranging for alternate transportation by planning ahead of time to arrive home safely."

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 by driving sober, wearing seatbelts, and driving distraction-free. Results from this planned enforcement will be released early the week following the event.

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