



LODI POLICE DEPARTMENT

David J. Main, Chief of Police

215 West Elm Street
Lodi, CA 95240
209-333-6727 (Dispatch)
209-333-5515 (Fax)
www.lodi.gov/police

PRESS RELEASE

Release Date and Time: 090309

Subject: Avoid the 10 DUI Grant

Details: On **08/28/09** the Lodi Police Department conducted a DUI Check Point in the 500 block of E Lockeford. During this check point, LPD arrested 3 suspects for driving under the influence, arrested 2 others on warrants, screened 856 drivers for any signs of intoxication, towed 6 vehicles- 5 of which were held for 30 days impound because the driver either had a suspended license or no license and issued 14 other citations for various traffic violations.

On **090209**, the Lodi Police Department used Avoid the 10 Grant money from the Office of Traffic safety (OTS) to conduct warrant sweeps. In the Lodi Area there were 700 arrest warrants issued for DUI, driving on a suspended license and driving without a license violations. 107 of those warrants were located within the LPD jurisdiction. 8 LPD officers formed 4 warrant teams that checked all 107 locations in just an 8 hour period.

LPD Officers were able to arrested 10 on warrants for DUI, driving on a suspended license or driving without a license violations and cleared an additional 6 warrants as they learned the suspects were now deceased.

In addition one of the teams responded to a Hit and Run collision and found the suspect driver, Jose Nava (09/11/87) and passenger Yoshria Bonilla (06/10/85). During the investigation officers found a loaded handgun, suspected stolen car stereos, laptop and a tool used to steal vehicles.

Jose Nava was booked at Lodi City Jail for 14601.1(a) VC (Suspended license), 16028(a) VC (No insurance), 22350 VC (Unsafe speed for conditions), 20002 VC (Hit and Run), 12025 PC (Possession of a concealed weapon) and 12031 PC (Possession of a loaded firearm)-all misdemeanors so Nava was booked, cited and released **photo below**

Bonilla was booked at Lodi City Jai and held on \$110,000 bail I for 12021.1 PC (Felon in possession of a firearm), 12025(A) PC (Possession of a concealed firearm w/ prior felony domestic violence or narcotics conviction) and 12031 PC (Possession of a loaded firearm w/ prior felony domestic violence or narcotics conviction)-**photo below**

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Lodi Police Officers will be out in full force during the Labor Day holiday period. They will join thousands of other law enforcement and highway safety agencies throughout the nation as they take part in the Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest crackdown on impaired driving. The enforcement blitz will last through Labor Day, September 7, but Lodi Police dedication to DUI enforcement will continue with proactive enforcement of DUI violations.

Drunk driving is one of America's deadliest crimes. In 2008, over 11,700 people died in highway crashes involving a driver or motorcycle operator with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher. In California the provisional data for 2008 just released indicates that 1029 died in Alcohol Involved Collisions. This data reveals a 9 percent reduction in deaths from 2007.

The picture for motorcycle riders is particularly bleak. In fatal crashes in 2007, a higher percentage of motorcycle riders (27 percent) had a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher than any other type of motor vehicle driver.

Drunk driving is simply not worth the risk. Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for impaired driving can be significant. Violators often face jail time, the loss of their driver's license, higher insurance rates, attorney fees, time away from work, and dozens of other expenses.

So don't take the chance. Remember, if you are caught over the limit, you will be placed under arrest.

THE HISTORY OF AVOID

The AVOID Anti-DUI Program was launched in the winter of 1973 to bring law enforcement agencies together in countywide clusters to crack down on the drinking driver and reduce the number of deaths and injuries caused by alcohol related crashes. Funding, provided by grants from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, allows counties to add overtime hours, reassign officers, and conduct public awareness campaigns during the increased enforcement periods.

The overall goal of the awareness campaign is to let drivers know about the countywide increased enforcement periods and warn drivers that the only way to "AVOID" the county's law enforcement officers is to drive sober. Increased enforcement periods are active statewide during the National Anti DUI

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Mobilization Campaigns, which are Mid-December through New Years; Mid August through Labor Day weekend and during the high traffic holiday periods on Memorial Day weekend and Independence Day weekend. Additionally, Avoid Patrols deploy on nights with high incidents of DUI offenders and DUI collisions such as Halloween, Super Bowl Sunday, St Patrick's Day and Cinco De Mayo.

Santa Clara County was the first to participate in the AVOID Anti-DUI Campaign. Since 1974, 41 counties have joined the program bringing over 540 law enforcement agencies together to fight drunk driving on our streets and highways. In 2003, nine Bay Area Counties joined forces to become the first regional AVOID Program in the nation with 125 participating law enforcement agencies. Currently Regional Avoid campaigns are also active with five counties in the North State Regional Avoid 30, nine counties in the Sacramento Valley Regional Avoid 70 and 6 counties in the South Central Valley Regional Avoid 60.

For the 2008-09 Avoid Campaign periods beginning Oct 2008, the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) is funding \$6.5 Million for additional officer overtime to fan out into communities from the Oregon state line to the Mexican border to arrest drunken drivers before another senseless death occurs. California DUI deaths are declining for the first time in nearly a decade by 6.7% and law enforcement officials are doubling their efforts to save more lives.

Law enforcement is using every resource available to include: Sobriety/Driver License Checkpoints, Local Saturation Patrols, Multi Agency DUI Task Force Operations, along with Warrant/Probation Sweeps and Court Stings which target repeat DUI offenders – California's worst of the worst intoxicated drivers with suspended or revoked driving privileges.

"Zero Deaths! Every 1 Counts" is the OTS mission for 2009. Remember, you can make the difference. Always use a designated driver and as you travel – Report Drunk Drivers - Call 9-1-1.

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Jose Nava

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Yoshira Bonilla

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**For further questions please contact Motor Sgt. Chris Jacobson at 209-333-6861
or cjacobson@pd.lodi.gov**

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