

News Release

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SACRAMENTO COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT TO KEEP EYES ON HIGH-RISK DUI OFFENDERS

Felony and repeat DUI offenders are over represented in traffic crashes involving alcohol or other drugs, often with tragic results. A \$423,300 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety to the Sacramento County Probation Department will be making sure that the worst-of-the-worst offenders are complying with their court orders.

“Driving under the influence is a serious crime that often results in injury and death. We are pleased to receive grant funding to target felony and repeat DUI offenders. Active probation supervision coupled with treatment is a proven strategy for preventing future crimes from high-risk offenders such as these,” said Chief Probation Officer Lee Seale.

The grant will fund officers to intensely monitor offenders on probation for felony DUI or multiple DUI convictions. Supervision for these high-risk offenders will include unannounced home searches, random alcohol and drug testing and monitoring to ensure compliance with court-ordered DUI education and treatment programs.

The Intensive Probation Supervision for High-Risk Felony and Repeat DUI Offenders grant is aimed at reducing the number of persons killed and injured in alcohol and other drug related collisions in the county. Last year, over 400 victims were killed or injured in such crashes in Sacramento County.

Probation will also collaborate with other local law enforcement agencies to conduct DUI/Driver license checkpoints and warrant service operations targeting individuals who fail to make court appearances after DUI arrests.

Drunk driving is one of America’s deadliest crimes. In 2011, nationally, 9,778 people died in highway crashes involving a driver or motorcycle operator with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher. In California, the number of victims killed was 774.

Funding for the grant is from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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