

BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Frederick J. Akshar II

Undersheriff Sammy L. Davis

155 Lt. Van Winkle Drive, Binghamton, NY 13905

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BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PRESS RELEASE <u>Broome County STOP DWI – Don't Drink and Drive this Holiday Weekend</u>

The Broome County STOP-DWI's High Visibility Engagement Campaign will be in effect this weekend, and the Broome County Sheriff's Office is reminding residents to make safe choices to avoid tragedy this holiday weekend.

The Fourth of July extended weekend is historically a deadly period for impaired driving, and with the 4th of July falling on a Friday this year, law enforcement expects heavy traveling to begin as early as Thursday evening.

"We all love to celebrate the Fourth of July with family, friends, food and fireworks, but sad truth is that far too often, festivities can turn tragic on the road, not only in Broome County, but across the country," said Sheriff Fred Akshar. "The numbers show that this iconic American holiday is also one of the deadliest holidays of the year due to impaired-driving crashes. We want everyone to have fun, but also to make safe choices and not put their own lives or the lives of others in danger this weekend."

Additional Sheriff's patrols will be present in the community to help keep drunk drivers off the road in Broome County.

Broome County STOP-DWI released the following tips for residents to avoid tragedy:

- Plan a safe way home before the fun begins.
- Designate a sober driver before the drinking begins.
- If you're impaired, use a taxi, ride share, sober friend or family member, or use public transportation to ensure you get home safely.
- If you see a drunk driver on the road, don't hesitate to call 911.

The STOP-DWI July 4th High Visibility Engagement Campaign is one of many statewide initiatives promoted by STOP-DWI NY and the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. The Statewide STOP-DWI High Visibility Engagement Campaign also targets Memorial Day,

General Information:	Fiscal:	Garnishees:	Civil:	Identification:	Records:
(607) 778-1911	(607) 778-2928	(607)778-2926	(607)778-2145	(607)778-2924	(607)778-2166

Labor Day, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Holiday Season, Super Bowl weekend and St. Patrick's Day.

Highly visible, highly publicized efforts like the STOP-DWI High Visibility Engagement Campaign aim to further reduce the incidence of drunk and impaired driving.

Residents can help to make a difference by Having a Sober Plan. Downloading the STOP DWI mobile app – "Have a Plan" and allow them the ability to always find a safe ride home <u>www.stopdwi.org/mobileapp</u>

Impaired driving is completely preventable. All it takes is a little planning.

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