



Chief of Police Carl Dabadie

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over

In an ongoing effort to combat impaired driving inside the city limits, the Baton Rouge Police Department's DWI Task Force will continue participating in the national **Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over** campaign which runs February 6 through February 18, 2015.

During these last 6 days of the Mardi Gras season, Task Force Officers will conduct *additional* saturated patrols beginning noon, Thursday February 12 and ending late Wednesday morning, February 18, 2015. Motorists are reminded that impairment begins at .02g% BAC and as alcoholic beverage consumption increases, so does the level of impairment. Prescribed medications, taken as directed or combined with alcoholic beverages can result in unexpected and increased impairment. If your plans are to be a designated, sober driver, stick to your plan. Should your celebration involve consuming alcoholic beverages, make every effort to pre-plan your transportation needs *prior* to consumption.

Parent or adults are encouraged to speak with minor children and younger adults about the dangers associated with being a vehicle occupant where as an impaired driver exist.

In addition to increased DWI patrols, Task Force Officers will partner with Uniform Patrol Officers from the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Precincts, conducting neighborhood bicycle patrols and seatbelt checkpoints. Motorists are reminded that *all* occupants traveling in a *passenger* vehicle must be properly restrained by seatbelts, including front, center and rear seating. Officers will be conducting up-close observations of vehicle occupants via bicycle patrols and seatbelt checkpoints. Drivers stopped for unrestrained occupants under the age of 17 years will be cited for each occurrence within the vehicle.

For additional information on recent changes or current laws governing impaired or distracted driving, seatbelt and child restraint use as well as educational materials, please visit, [www.lahighwaysafety.org](http://www.lahighwaysafety.org).