

Creating a Safer Huntington Beach by reducing alcohol problems among young people

Contact: Jennifer Drader, CSP – Project PATH Program Supervisor (714) 441-0807 | <u>idrader@cspinc.org</u> | Operationsafehb.org

Contact: Lt. Mitch O' Brien, Public Information Office (714) 960-8811 | mobrien@hbpd.org

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Huntington Beach Police Department Cracks Down on DUIs Downtown

Huntington Beach, California (January 25, 2014) – On January 24, 2014, the Huntington Beach Police Department (HBPD) took action to stop drunk drivers leaving the downtown area. HBPD officers were on the look-out for people drinking and driving under the influence of alcohol as they left the bars and took to the streets. HBPD officers patrolled the area and initiated car stops of drivers appearing to be under the influence. Officers conducted 47 vehicle stops, 15 field sobriety tests, and made 5 DUI arrests.

Research shows that high visibility DUI enforcement operations dissuade people from drinking and driving thus decreasing the number of alcohol-related car accidents. The Huntington Beach Police Department takes driving under the influence seriously and has increased its presence in the downtown area in order to reduce alcohol related problems and keep Huntington Beach streets safe.

The Huntington Beach Police Department DUI Patrol supports the citywide DUI prevention effort in collaboration with Operation Safe HB – an initiative led by the Orange County non-profit organization, Community Services Programs, Inc. (CSP) – Project PATH. Operation Safe HB has also employed a media campaign in and around Huntington Beach to notify the public about the crackdown. Media posters on buses, in bars downtown and on cable television announce, "DUI Crackdown in Huntington Beach."

Operation Safe HB and the Huntington Beach Police Department encourage all motorists to help make the community safer by driving sober and calling 9-1-1 to report drunk drivers.

###

