### 2019 *IF YOU FEEL DIFFERENT, YOU DRIVE DIFFERENT.*

### *DRIVE HIGH, GET A DUI*

## Products For Enforcement Action Kit: Fact Sheet

The U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is joining forces with law enforcement nationwide during the 2019 Labor Day *If You Feel Different, You Drive Different. Drive High, Get a DUI.* high-visibility enforcement campaign, which runs from August 14 through September 2, 2019. The enforcement campaign coincides with the 2019 Labor Day holiday weekend, which is one of the deadliest times of the year in terms of impaired-driving fatalities. With NHTSA’s support, state and local law enforcement agencies across the nation are stepping-up enforcement to put an end to drug-impaired driving, showing zero tolerance to save lives.

**Sobering Statistics**

* In 2016, 42% of the drivers killed in fatal crashes who were tested, tested positive for drugs. Keep this important rule in mind: *If You Feel Different, You Drive Different*. *Drive High, Get a DUI*.
* NHTSA’s [2013/14 National Roadside Survey of Alcohol and Drug Use by Drivers](http://www.nhtsa.gov/staticfiles/nti/pdf/812118-Roadside_Survey_2014.pdf) found that nearly one in four weekend nighttime drivers tested positive for at least one drug that could impair their ability to drive safely.
* It doesn’t matter what term you use: If a person is feeling a little high, buzzed, stoned, wasted, or drunk, he or she is impaired and should never get behind the wheel.
* If you think driving while high won’t affect you, you are wrong: It has been proven that Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) — the chemical responsible for most of marijuana’s psychoactive effects — slows reaction times, impairs cognitive performance, and makes it more difficult for drivers to keep a steady position in their lane. This is a deadly combination.
* Something as simple as cold medication or an over-the-counter sleep aid could impair your driving. If it does, you will be arrested for a DUI. If you are taking a new prescription drug or a higher dose of a current prescription drug, do not drive until you know what effect it has on your judgement, coordination, and reaction time. Any effect could impair your driving ability.
* Certain medications may not impair you on their own, but if taken with a second medication or with alcohol, they may cause impairment. Any form of impaired driving is illegal.
* It is illegal to drive impaired in all 50 states and the District of Columbia — no exceptions.

**Financial Impacts**

* On average, a DUI could set you back $10,000 in attorney’s fees, fines, court costs, lost time at work, higher insurance rates, car towing, and more.
* The financial impact from impaired-driving crashes is devastating. Based on 2010 numbers (the most recent year for which cost data is available), impaired-driving crashes cost the United States $44 billion annually.
* If you’re caught driving under the influence of any impairing substance, you could face jail time. Imagine trying to explain that to your friends and family or your place of employment.
* Drug-impaired driving could cause you to lose your driver’s license and your vehicle. This could inhibit you from getting to work, resulting in lost wages and, potentially, job loss.

**Celebrate with a Plan**

Always remember to plan ahead if you will be celebrating. If you plan to indulge in an impairing substance, plan for a sober driver to take you home. Is it your turn to be the designated driver? Take that role seriously and do not partake in alcohol or any other drugs.

* If you have ingested an impairing substance, such as marijuana, alcohol, prescription drugs, sleep medication, or any form of illegal drug, do not drive. Passengers should never ride with an impaired driver. If you think a driver may be impaired, do not get in the car.
* If you are drug-impaired, pass the keys to a sober driver who can safely drive you to your final destination. Like drunk driving, it is essential that drug-impaired drivers refrain from driving a vehicle. It is never okay to drive while impaired by any substance.
* Have a friend who is about to drive while impaired by drugs? Take the keys away and arrange to get them home safely. Don’t worry about offending someone—they’ll thank you later.
* Use your community’s sober ride program **[Insert your local sober ride program specifics here]**.
* If you see an impaired driver on the road, contact **[Local Law Enforcement]**.

For more information about the *If You Feel Different, You Drive Different. Drive High, Get a DUI.* campaign, visit <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/drug-impaired-driving/drive-high-get-dui>.