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Department of Transportation News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**It's a 'Super' Mistake to Drink and Drive**

*Kansans urged to make the right call and designate a sober driver on Sunday*

Topeka, Kan. – Families and friends who will gather across the Sunflower state on Sunday to enjoy Super Bowl XLV<sup>®</sup> are advised to arrange now for a sober designated driver or make other plans to avoid drinking and driving, the Kansas Department of Transportation said.

“In Kansas, fans don’t let fans drive drunk,” said Deb Miller, Kansas Secretary of Transportation, echoing the national campaign supported by the NFL and several safe-driving organizations. In addition to encouraging sober designated drivers or other safe game-day travel plans, Sec. Miller said many colleges in Kansas offer Safe-Ride programs for student safety.

“We remind Kansans that any amount of alcohol can impair judgment and driving skills,” Miller said. “That’s why we encourage the use of *sober* drivers to get home safely after the game.”

Col. Ernest E. Garcia, Superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol, said drivers can expect to see troopers across the state stepping up the enforcement of traffic laws through Super Bowl Sunday. “Designating a sober driver or taking a cab helps protect you from ruining this fun day with a DUI arrest and a trip to jail - or worse, a crash that injures or kills you or someone else.”

“We want every Kansan to be safe before, during, and after the big game,” Miller added. “Having a sober designated driver should be an obvious call in every fan’s play book. Make sure designated drivers know how much we appreciate their responsible decision, and let’s make Super Bowl XLV extra special - and extra safe - in the Sunflower State.”

Several websites – [www.FansDontLetFansDriveDrunk.org](http://www.FansDontLetFansDriveDrunk.org), <http://www.nhtsa.gov/Impaired>, and [www.StopImpairedDriving.org](http://www.StopImpairedDriving.org) – offer guidance to keep Sunday safe.

### **Tips for hosts:**

- Reserve the most convenient parking spots for designated drivers.
- Greet guests at the door by asking who will be their designated driver.
- Show all your guests that you care for their safety by offering their designated drivers the best seat to watch the game, front-of-the-line buffet privileges, or a fun party gift.
- Before kickoff, arrange ride-sharing for guests without a designated driver.
- Have plenty of nonalcoholic beverages on hand, and serve plenty of food.
- Only serve alcohol to guests over 21 years of age.
- Just like at NFL stadiums, signal “last call” and stop serving alcoholic beverages at a predetermined time, such as the end of the third quarter.
- Keep local cab phone numbers by your phone, or save them in your cell phone for quick, one-touch convenience.
- Take appropriate steps to prevent anyone from driving while impaired.
- Be prepared to invite guests to spend the night if an alternative way home is not available.

### **Tips for guests at parties, sports bars or restaurants:**

- Designate your sober driver when planning your outing, or before the game begins.
- Leave your car keys at home if you plan to drink.
- Reward your designated driver by paying any parking fee, buying a tank of gas, picking up the driver’s tab for their food and drink, or offering to be the next designated driver.
- Add taxicab phone numbers to your cell phone, or install a taxi app or mobile Web page in your smart phone.
- Take appropriate steps to prevent anyone from driving while impaired.
- Always buckle up; it’s your best defense on the road.

### **Safe-Ride programs are available at these Kansas colleges:**

- Kansas State: <http://www.k-state.edu/osas/saferide.htm>
- University of Kansas: <http://saferide.ku.edu/>
- Emporia State: <http://www.emporia.edu/asg/corkyscab.htm>
- Wichita State: [http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=policy&p=/alcohol\\_folder/Saferiders/](http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=policy&p=/alcohol_folder/Saferiders/)
- Washburn: <http://washburnlaw.edu/students/saferide/>
- Fort Hays State: <http://www.fhsu.edu/kellycenter/dawn/Safe-Ride/>
- Pittsburg State: <http://www.pittstate.edu/office/activities/programs/student-wellness/>

This information can be made available in alternative accessible formats upon request.

For information about obtaining an alternative format, contact the Bureau of Transportation Information, 700 SW Harrison St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.