



# Richmond Police Department

P.O. Box 203  
1168 Main Street  
Wyoming, Rhode Island 02898



Elwood M. Johnson, Jr.  
Chief of Police

Telephone 401-539-8289  
Fax 401-539-8293

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## PRESS RELEASE

### Rhode Island



## Impaired Driving Enforcement Task Force

It is not uncommon for our officers to hear, “*I didn't hurt anybody... I haven't had that much to drink...*” or “*...don't you have anything better to do?*” from a person they've arrested for driving while drunk/impaired. However, these same officers have responded to crashes involving drunk drivers who did hurt somebody, or worse, cause a death. Many times, drunk drivers express heartbreaking remorse about hurting innocent people as the result of a crash, and wish they could turn back the clock. **That tragedy was preventable, but not reversible.** That is the reason we will be joining the Impaired Driving Enforcement Task Force this holiday week with extra patrols to focus on impaired driving enforcement, in hopes that we intercept *that* driver who made a potentially fatal decision to put themselves and others at risk, and to return them safely to the station where they will be charged. Though they may be embarrassed, face potential jail time, loss of license, and hundreds of dollars in associated expenses, at least we can ensure that they have a chance to join their family and friends at a holiday gathering. That is a much better outcome than their actions leading them to a hospital, morgue, or a new reality of surviving to live with the anguish of knowing they took the life of an innocent person who happened to be in the path of their vehicle.

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