



**For Immediate Release:** 12.15.05

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### **Police on the Look Out for Drunk Drivers**

The Oak Park Police Department will be conducting roadside checks for drivers under the influence from Dec. 22 – 27 as part of a statewide effort to reduce alcohol-related tragedies during the holiday season.

Officers will be stopping vehicles at regular intervals throughout the Village, speaking with drivers while watching for signs of alcohol impairment and other violations. The program is funded by federal grants administered through the Illinois Department of Transportation.

"The purpose of the spot checks is to keep the community safe and free of alcohol-related tragedies throughout the holiday season," said Oak Park Police Chief Rick C. Tanksley. "Nearly 17,000 people died last year in from alcohol-related vehicle accidents in the U.S., including nearly 500 in Illinois, and many during holidays. That's why the Village of Oak Park has a zero tolerance policy toward drunk drivers."

Tanksley said his officers will be out in the community urging residents to celebrate responsibly by designating a driver and not drinking and driving.

For more information on the roadside checks, contact the Oak Park Police Department at 386.3800 or [police@oak-park.us](mailto:police@oak-park.us).

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