



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Branson Police Cracks Down on Impaired Driving** *You Drink & Drive. You Lose.*

Law enforcement officers across Missouri including the Branson Police Department will be cracking down on drunk driving with increased enforcement August 15 – September 1, during the **You Drink & Drive- You Lose** statewide campaign. Law enforcement efforts will be increased in an endeavor to reduce the deaths and serious injuries caused by impaired drivers. Funding to defray the cost of overtime during the enforcement crackdown comes through a grant from the Missouri Safety Center. Those caught drinking and driving could lose their license, be required to pay fines and face possible jail time.

“Driving while intoxicated is one of the most common violent crimes, randomly killing or injuring someone in Missouri every one and one-half hours,” said Branson Police Chief Caroll McCullough. “These tragedies are preventable when drivers make a simple, smart choice not to drink and drive.”

Here are some of the legal consequences of driving while intoxicated:

- If you cause a fatal crash while intoxicated, you can be charged with Involuntary Manslaughter, a felony resulting in up to seven years of jail time, a \$5,000.00 fine or both.
- Your license can be suspended for 90 days on your first conviction. You could be fined up to \$500 and spend up to six months in jail.
- A second conviction results in a yearlong revocation of your license. You could be fined up to \$1000 and spend up to one year in jail.
- Minors may additionally be subject to a Minor in Possession citation, resulting in license suspension for 90 days for a first offense. This is in addition to any suspension resulting from “point” assessment on an alcohol conviction.
- Insurance coverage will be difficult to find and your rates will be significantly higher. “It’s never worth the risk to drive while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

For more information on impaired driving, visit [www.saveMOlives.com](http://www.saveMOlives.com)