

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 3/15/2024	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT
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## DUI Emphasis Patrol – Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>

Target Zero - St. Patrick's Day Impaired Driving Prevention Campaign

GRANT COUNTY, WA – In a continued effort to reduce traffic accidents during St. Patrick's Day weekend, increased safety patrols will be visible on Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> throughout Grant County. Various local law enforcement agencies will participate in this effort, working to remove impaired drivers from the road.

St. Patrick's Day is a known time for increased alcohol intake. According to trafficsafetymarketing.gov, "St. Patrick's Day is one of the deadliest days on our nation's roads. Across the United States, there were 272 lives lost in drunk-driving crashes during the holiday period (6:00 p.m. March 16 to 5:59 a.m. March 18) between 2017 and 2021".

If you plan to consume alcohol this weekend, make plans ahead of time to ensure you have a safe and sober ride home. Drunk driving has the devastating potential to take a life in an instant.

Ensure the safety of yourself and others:

- If it's your turn to be the designated driver, take your job seriously and don't drink.
- Don't let someone get behind the wheel if they have been using alcohol, cannabis, or other drugs.
- Always wear your seatbelt. It is your best defense against impaired drivers.
- Provide a safe environment for youth to thrive substance free.
- If you see an impaired driver, call 911.

Getting home safe is always worth it.

Grant County Health District is the proud lead agency for Target Zero Region 15, which includes Grant, Adams, Lincoln, and Ferry counties—Target Zero striving to end traffic deaths and serious injuries on Washington's roadways. For more information, visit www.targetzero.com.

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