



Abilene Police Department

News Release

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ABILENE POLICE DEPARTMENT WARNS MOTORISTS NOT TO DRINK AND DRIVE

ABILENE, TX – The Abilene Police Department is urging citizens to have a plan before heading out to take part in New Year’s Eve Holiday celebrations. The Department hopes to reduce the number of DWI related crashes, injuries, and fatalities by educating citizens of the dangers of drinking and driving. Alcohol related traffic fatalities continue to occur on the roadways of Abilene. Over the past five years, nineteen people have lost their lives in Abilene due to alcohol related crashes.

“Drunk driving kills! Driving is the most dangerous thing most people will do in their lifetimes, and to drive drunk is tragic and a serious crime. Choose which back seat you will ride home in...ours should not be an option! Please enjoy the New Year responsibly, the life you save may be your own,” said Abilene Police Chief Stan Standridge.

Drivers have many alternatives to driving while intoxicated. They can call a cab, ask a friend or a family member for a ride, hand their keys to a designated driver or simply stay put until they sober up. They also can take advantage of TxDOT’s website SoberRides.org, which lists ride options in areas throughout Texas.

DWI is a serious crime and is 100 percent preventable. Convicted first-time DWI offenders can pay a fine of up to \$2,000, lose their driver license for up to a year and serve as much as 180 days in jail. Other consequences associated with a DWI arrest and conviction can add up to as much as \$17,000 or more for bail, legal fees, court appearances, court-ordered classes, vehicle insurance increases and other expenses.

Stay Alive - Don’t Drink and Drive. Lives depend on it, including your own!

Respectfully,
Rick Tomlin
Public Information Coordinator

[www.abilene
police.org](http://www.abilene
police.org)



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Abilene Police
Department

“You are the
first line of
defense
against crime”

Stan Standridge, Chief of Police | 450 Pecan | Abilene, TX | 79602

“We work together to build a community of the highest quality for present and future generations”