



For Immediate Release
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Governor Bill Richardson Announces Winter SuperBlitz Kickoff *"Winter SuperBlitz" November 21, 2008 – January 4, 2009*

SANTA FE - Governor Bill Richardson today announced the kickoff of the "Winter SuperBlitz" which will run through the holiday season to include Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years. The Winter SuperBlitz is scheduled to run November 21, 2008 through January 4, 2009.

"We want New Mexicans to feel safe on the roadways this holiday season and through coordinated law enforcement efforts across the state, our communities will be safer," said Governor Richardson. "Law enforcement will be out in force during the winter holidays to stop motorists who put others in danger by driving drunk, speeding or failing to use seatbelts.

Each year the state provides approximately \$2.3 million dollars in federal traffic safety money to more than 85 local, state, and tribal enforcement agencies for increased DWI patrols. Additionally during the SuperBlitz, local enforcement agencies will conduct multi-agency operations.

Examples of stepped-up enforcement include Rio Rancho Police Department, which will conduct DWI operations over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend and DWI checkpoints every Friday and Saturday night during the month of December. The Sandoval County DWI Task Force, which includes nine local enforcement agencies, will conduct multi-agency operations throughout the SuperBlitz period. And the Sandoval County DWI & Prevention Program who will provide "safe ride home" services to patrons of Rio Rancho establishments every weekend in December.

"We want to thank enforcement agencies and community initiatives across New Mexico for their tremendous effort this year to curb drunk driving," said Rachel O'Connor, NM DWI Czar. "This holiday season we can expect to see cops and checkpoints everywhere, and alert citizens calling #DWI to report dangerous drivers."

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