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NEWS

ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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White Puts DUI Fact Book on Internet for First Time

SPRINGFIELD — For the first time, the Secretary of State's DUI Fact Book is on the Internet at www.cyberdriveillinois.com, Secretary of State Jesse White announced today. The Fact Book is a compilation of facts, statistics and information about the status of drunk driving in Illinois.

"The DUI Fact Book always has been a good reference tool for the media and various advocacy groups," said White, "but now it is instantly available to everyone."

In Illinois in 1999, 637 people were killed in alcohol-related crashes, which was 43.8 percent of the 1,456 total crash fatalities. There were 48,587 DUI arrests reported to the Secretary of State's office.

"These statistics represent an increase in fatalities and a decrease in arrests from 1998," said White. "This points out the need for even tougher DUI legislation and the importance of passing my traffic safety proposal (House Bills 2265 and 2266) aimed at drunk drivers and drivers without valid licenses. The Illinois House and the Senate Judiciary Committee have approved both bills.

"Now in the full Senate for consideration, the legislation targets the most dangerous and irresponsible drivers on our roads. It penalizes those people who get behind the wheel at double the illegal limit, drive drunk with a child in the car or continue to drive after their license has been taken away."

The average DUI offender is:

- male (85 percent of those arrested are men)
- 34 years old (57 percent of those arrested are under 35)
- arrested between 11 p.m. and 4 a.m. on a weekend
- caught driving with a BAC level of .16 percent

The DUI Fact Book outlines the chronology of a DUI arrest, provides the penalties for a DUI conviction, and outlines the painstaking process of applying for driver's license reinstatement following a revocation.

The Fact Book also outlines the underage drinking problem in Illinois and the number of "Use It & Lose It"/Zero Tolerance violations by county.

In the area of Victims' Rights, DUI-related (including reckless homicide) crash victims and families are encouraged to send a written request to the Department of Administrative Hearings so they can be notified of the offender's driver's license hearings.

"I am pleased to make the DUI Fact Book available to the public on my Web site," said White. "This gives me the opportunity to inform more people about the drunk driving problem in Illinois."

ILLINOIS CRASH FATALITIES

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>CRASH FATALITIES</u>	<u>ALCOHOL-RELATED CRASH FATALITIES</u>	<u>PERCENT ALCOHOL-RELATED</u>
1982	1,651	968	58.6%
1983	1,526	879	57.6%
1984	1,547	866	56.0%
1985	1,534	823	53.7%
1986	1,596	845	53.0%
1987	1,654	828	50.1%
1988	1,837	912	49.7%
1989	1,748	890	50.9%
1990	1,589	802	50.5%
1991	1,448	731	50.5%
1992	1,384	671	48.6%
1993	1,392	630	45.2%
1994	1,554	656	42.2%
1995	1,586	682	42.9%
1996	1,477	665	45.0%
1997	1,395	587	42.1%
1998	1,393	601	43.1%

1999	1,456	637	43.8%
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Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; Traffic Safety; October 2000

DRIVERS ARRESTED FOR DUI

YEAR	ARRESTS
1986	55,104
1987	51,797
1988	48,656
1990	49,405
1991	48,609
1992	47,941
1993	46,128
1994	43,547
1995	44,433
1996	44,710
1997	47,034
1998	49,547
1999	48,587

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