



Jesse White

SECRETARY OF STATE

NEWS

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White Urges Motorists to Celebrate the Labor Day Weekend Safely

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White is reminding driver's not to drink and drive and to use their safety belts during this Labor Day holiday weekend.

- In 2003, 60%, of the Labor Day fatalities in Illinois were alcohol related.

"Drinking and driving is a dangerous combination which often results in a DUI, meaning you face criminal charges, lose your driving privileges, experience financial hardship or even worse injure or kill someone."

- Nationally, 17,013 lives were lost in alcohol-related crashes in 2002. This is the equivalent of:
 - one alcohol-related fatality every 32 minutes
 - one alcohol-related injury every 2 minutes

There were 1,420 crash fatalities in Illinois in 2003, 639 of which were alcohol related.

White urged drivers to celebrate the holiday safely by using a designated driver, who abstains from drinking. If drinking is involved in the celebration, White suggests taking public transportation, calling a cab, or staying overnight. White also reminds drivers that your safety belt is often your best defense against a drunk driver.

Secretary of State police will also have DUI patrols during the holiday weekend.

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