



Jesse White

SECRETARY OF STATE

NEWS

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Jesse White Urges People To Be Safe This Holiday Season Designate A Sober Driver

During this holiday season, Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White is reminding people to celebrate safely by not drinking and driving.

"Holidays are a time to make joyful memories with family and friends. Avoid experiencing a tragedy in your family or someone else's because of a drunk driver," White said. "If your celebrations include drinking, designate a sober driver or use public transportation."

According to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT):

- In 2008, there were eight crash fatalities, two of which were alcohol-related (25%) during the Christmas holiday.
- During the same time in 2007, there were 13 crash fatalities, four of which were alcohol-related (30.8%).
- In 2008 during the New Year's holiday, there were 10 crash fatalities, three of which were alcohol-related (30%).
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During the same time in 2007, there were 11 fatalities, five of which were alcohol-related (45.5%). Secretary of State Police will be on patrol during the holidays in order to keep the roads safe, White said. The police will be conducting DUI and seatbelt patrols with the Illinois State police and IDOT. White reminded drivers that the safety belt is the best defense against a drunk driver.

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