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**Jesse White Announces Key Upgrade to Ignition Interlock Program Requiring Camera Installation**  
*Secretary of State Police enhancing DUI enforcement efforts statewide over the holiday weekend*

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White was joined by traffic safety advocates today to announce a key upgrade to Illinois' innovative Breath Alcohol Ignition Interlock Device (BAIID) program, which now requires an in-car camera to accompany every BAIID installation. The law change took effect July 1 and provides additional accountability to a program that has received national acclaim as a model in the fight against drunk driving.

"My top priority as Secretary of State is to make the roads of Illinois as safe as possible," said White. "Since we expanded BAIID to include first-time DUI offenders, drunk driving deaths have dropped by 24 percent. But even the best programs can be made better, and that is precisely what this program upgrade will accomplish. The in-car camera technology provides additional accountability and eliminates any doubt that the user of the BAIID is in fact the DUI offender."

White noted that last year there were more than 3,000 instances in which drivers failed to start their vehicles because the BAIID detected alcohol during breath tests. One driver recorded 10 failures in a 60-day period.

White made the announcement at a press conference in Chicago where he was joined by representatives from Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), the Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists (AAIM), the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and Secretary of State Police.

"MADD commends Secretary White for his leadership in making Illinois roads safer," said Jan Withers, National President of MADD. "Requiring convicted drunk drivers to show they are 'sober to start' with BAIIDs has proven to be the most effective way to reduce drunk driving recidivism, keeping Illinoisans safer on our roadways, saving lives and preventing injuries. The new camera requirement makes an excellent program even better."

MADD has recognized Illinois as a national leader in the fight against drunk driving. Illinois recently received the highest-ranking possible by MADD – garnering five stars – for its efforts to combat drunk driving.

"AAIM supports Secretary White's new rule requiring all BAIID users to also have a camera installed," said Rita Kreslin, AAIM Executive Director. "This is yet another way to ensure that BAIIDs are being used appropriately and to refute those who say 'someone else blew into the device, not me.' AAIM appreciates Secretary White's ongoing efforts to keep impaired drivers off of Illinois roadways."

"Requiring drunk driving offenders to use ignition interlocks has proven to be a crucial element of comprehensive state drunk driving programs," said David Strickland, Administrator of NHTSA. "Thanks to Secretary White's leadership, the State of Illinois was among the first to adopt an interlock law covering all drunk-driving offenders, and I am very pleased to see them continue to lead the way with steps to ensure that offenders comply with the requirement."

Under White's leadership, Illinois became just the second state to implement a comprehensive BAID program that includes first-time DUI offenders. Motorists are required to blow into the BAID, which measures their breath alcohol content (BAC) levels. The device is designed to prevent DUI offenders from driving after having consumed alcohol. It is a Class A misdemeanor for someone other than the offender to blow into the BAID when the offender is the driver.

White also encouraged motorists to celebrate the 4th of July holiday safely and responsibly. In 2011, there were 13 traffic fatalities over the 4th of July weekend, and nine of them were alcohol-related.

"Enjoy the festivities, but don't drink and drive," said White. "Call a cab, use public transportation or designate a sober driver."

The Secretary of State's office will join IDOT, the Illinois State Police and other law enforcement agencies to conduct DUI, safety belt and speed patrols during the holiday weekend. Secretary of State Police also will be enforcing the "Click It or Ticket" campaign to increase safety belt usage throughout the weekend.

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