

For Immediate Release

Date 06/27/2016

**Contact Information:** 

Sgt. Aaron Lefebvre 565-4779
Aaron.Lefebvre@clintoncountygov.com

## Clinton County to Participate in Statewide STOP-DWI Fourth of July Crackdown Enforcement Effort

Impaired Driving Crackdown runs July 1<sup>st</sup>
– July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Clinton County STOP DWI Coordinator, Sgt. Aaron Lefebvre announced today that Clinton County police agencies will participate in a special enforcement effort to crackdown on impaired driving.

The statewide STOP-DWI Crackdown efforts start on July 1<sup>st</sup> and will end on July 5<sup>th</sup> The Fourth of July extended weekend is historically a deadly period for impaired driving. This year the 4<sup>th</sup> of July falls on a Monday so we expect heavy traveling to begin on Friday July 1<sup>st</sup> and festivities to begin on Saturday July 2<sup>nd</sup> and run through Tuesday July 5<sup>th</sup>.

Americans love to celebrate the Fourth of July with family, friends, food and fireworks, but all too often the festivities turn tragic on the nation's roads. The fact is, this iconic American holiday is also one of the deadliest holidays of the year due to drunk-driving crashes. According to data from NHTSA, during July 4th holiday period over the five years (from 2010 to 2014), 752 people lost their lives in crashes involving drivers with a BAC of .08 or more. These fatalities account for 42% percent of all motor vehicle traffic fatalities over this same five-year period. The New York State Police, County Sheriff and municipal law enforcement agencies will collaborate across the state and will be out in force in this coordinated effort to aggressively target those who put lives in danger.

The Fourth of July Weekend Crackdown is one of many statewide enforcement initiatives promoted by the New York State STOP-DWI Association. The Statewide STOP-DWI Crackdown Campaign also targets Labor Day Weekend, Halloween and the national Holiday Season in December.

While STOP-DWI efforts across New York have led to significant reductions in the numbers of alcohol and drug related fatalities, still too many lives are being lost because of crashes caused by drunk or impaired drivers. Highly visible, highly publicized efforts like the STOP-DWI Crackdown Campaign aim to further reduce the incidence of drunk and impaired driving.