



MEDIA RELEASE

Investigative Unit

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OIU Contact: Enforcement Commander – Eric Wolf
(614) 644-2415 or (614) 752-2792

Agents offer reminders to bars, restaurants and party hosts this holiday season

(Columbus) – As the holiday parties get into full swing, agents with the Ohio Investigative Unit would like to remind bars, restaurants and party hosts to keep their guests' safety in mind.

"If the permit holders and party hosts follow these reminders, they are contributing to making this holiday season safer for everyone," said Enforcement Commander Eric Wolf.

- Ensure your party guests have a ride home, such as a taxi, or a designated driver – one who has not had any alcohol.
- Do not purchase or provide alcohol to anyone who is under 21. While it may be tempting to provide a safe place for your child and their friends to hang out, don't do it. Something can go wrong, and because you provided the location, you can be held criminally and even civilly liable.
- If you see someone tampering with another person's drink, don't turn your back, ACT. Get the person out of harm's way, and if possible – keep the drink as evidence. Contact law enforcement as soon as possible.
- Remember that alcohol is the most commonly used drug used in sexual assaults. If you see someone is attempting to take advantage of an intoxicated individual, get that person out of harm's way. Find his/her friends and ensure the real friends get him/her home safely. If you cannot find a safe option, you can contact law enforcement to ensure the individual gets home safely.

These and more tips can be found throughout the month on [facebook.com/ohioOIU](https://www.facebook.com/ohioOIU) and [Twitter.com/Ohio_OIU](https://twitter.com/Ohio_OIU).

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The Ohio Investigative Unit agents are plain-clothed fully sworn peace officers. OIU is charged with enforcing the state's liquor laws and is the only state law enforcement agency specifically tasked with investigating food stamp fraud crimes. Agents also investigate tobacco violations. Follow OIU on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ohio-Investigative-Unit/165782203506269> and on Twitter by logging onto http://twitter.com/Ohio_OIU.