

Ohio Investigative Unit



MEDIA RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 23, 2015

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OIU promotes a safe and responsible Halloween

(Columbus) – Halloween is a popular holiday for many across Ohio, but it can also be dangerous when adding alcohol into the mix. Because of this, agents with the Ohio State Highway Patrol’s Ohio Investigative Unit (OIU) urge safe and responsible celebrating.

As you plan your Halloween celebrations, whether you’re throwing your own party at a house or bar or attending a large gathering elsewhere, agents are offering some tips for revelers.

- If you’re not 21, don’t drink;
- Don’t furnish or purchase alcohol for anyone under 21;
- If you see that a patron or a party-goer is intoxicated, do not serve them more alcohol; and
- Plan ahead by not driving drunk. Have a sober driver.

“Poor decisions during your night out can have devastating consequences,” said Commander of OIU Captain Gary Allen. “We hope if you are celebrating Halloween, you are responsible and you know all the ramifications.”

If anyone under 21 is caught drinking, in possession of or sharing in the cost of alcoholic beverages; if someone is caught furnishing alcohol to anyone under 21; or caught driving under the influence, each have criminal implications. Liquor permit establishments may also face administrative penalties, as well.

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The Ohio State Highway Patrol’s 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.