

## **Rialto Police Department**



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## **UPDATE:**

## 21 Arrested for DUI during, "Be a Saint on St. Patrick's Day" Weekend Campaign

Rialto, Calif. – The Rialto Police Department arrested 10 drivers on suspicion of DUI from March 17<sup>th</sup> to March 19<sup>th</sup>.

"We are committed to taking impaired drivers off the road," Chief Mark P. Kling said. "Our officers remain committed to keeping our roadways safe from impaired drivers. Driving under the influence is not only dangerous, but also has major consequences."

Drivers charged with a first-time DUI face an average of \$13,500 in fines and penalties, as well as a suspended license.

The Rialto Police Department will be holding a series of DUI enforcement patrols throughout the year to keep our roadways safe.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

## **ORIGINAL RELEASE:**

Be a Saint on St. Patrick's Day.
Plan Ahead and Celebrate Responsibly with a Designated Sober Driver

Rialto, Calif. – This St. Patrick's Day don't push your luck by drinking and driving. The Rialto Police Department will be on alert for suspected impaired drivers and wants to remind the community to celebrate responsibly by not driving under the influence.

Additional officers will be on patrol on March 17, 2023, from 7:00 p.m. to time 3:00 a.m. looking for drivers suspected of driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

"Leave your keys at home and plan ahead before you celebrate St. Patrick's Day," Chief Mark P. Kling said. "Designate a sober driver, schedule a ride-share, or make other plans to get home safely if you plan to consume alcohol."

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), St. Patrick's Day is one of the deadliest times on our nation's roads. In 2020, more than 11,000 people in the U.S. died in drunk-driving crashes.

The Rialto Police Department Chief Mark P. Kling wants to warn the community that alcohol is not the only substance that can cause impairment. Marijuana, prescription medications, or over-the-counter drugs may also impair. Do your research and understand how certain drugs may affect your driving ability.

Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Cpl. Nic Parcher Community Services Bureau (909) 771-9016

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