

## Fort Madison Police Department Urges Residents Not to Drink and Drive This New Year's Eve

As New Year's Eve celebrations approach, Fort Madison Police Department is reminding residents and visitors to celebrate responsibly and make safe choices behind the wheel.

New Year's Eve is one of the most dangerous nights of the year for impaired driving. Alcohol and drugs significantly reduce reaction time, judgment, and coordination, putting drivers, passengers, and others on the road at serious risk.

We want everyone to enjoy the holiday and welcome the New Year safely. Driving under the influence is entirely preventable. One poor decision can have lifelong consequences.

The Fort Madison Police Department encourages anyone who plans to drink to:

- Designate a sober driver in advance
- Use a rideshare service or public transportation
- Stay overnight where they are celebrating
- Never allow a friend or family member to drive while impaired

Officers will be on patrol throughout New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, actively enforcing impaired driving laws to help keep roadways safe.

The department reminds the public that impaired driving is not only illegal but also a leading cause of serious injuries and fatalities. If you see a suspected impaired driver, contact local authorities immediately.

Celebrate responsibly. Plan ahead. Don't drink and drive.