

Who's Your NFL Party MVP?

Dover – To prevent 2012 starting out with the senseless loss of life on First State roads due to impaired drivers, the Delaware Office of Highway Safety and law enforcement officers are reminding football fans that if your celebrations include alcohol, make the right decision before kickoff and always have a designated driver. Over 200 DUI saturation patrols are scheduled to be conducted statewide during the NFL playoff weeks and the Super Bowl and one DUI checkpoint is schedule to take place in New Castle County on Super Bowl Sunday.

“We’re reminding everyone that real NFL *Fans Don’t Let Fans Drive Drunk*,” said Jana Simpler, Director of the Delaware Office of Highway Safety (OHS). “If your postseason game plan includes alcohol, make sure you have a designated driver in your starting line-up. Never let anyone who has been drinking get behind the wheel. Designated drivers are your party’s MVP’s”.

Those convicted of a first time DUI offense in Delaware can expect to lose their driver’s license for up to three months, attend an 8-week DUI treatment class and pay nearly 4-thousand dollars in court, treatment, DMV, and lawyer’s fees.

Subsequent DUI convictions include mandatory jail time and higher fines.

OHS offers the following tips to help you have a safe NFL playoff and Super Bowl weekend. If you’re going out to a bar or party, designate a sober driver before the party begins and give that person your car keys. Once out, if you’ve been drinking alcohol, don’t even think about getting behind the wheel. Ask a sober friend for a ride home. Call a cab, friend or family member to come and get you, or stay where you are and sleep it off until you are sober. Finally, remember, *Fans Don’t Let Fans Drive Drunk*. Take the keys and never let a friend leave your sight if you think they are about to drive

while impaired.

If you are hosting a Super Bowl party, serve lots of high protein food and be sure to include lots of non-alcoholic beverages. Stop serving alcohol at the end of the third quarter of the game – and begin serving coffee, water, and dessert. Be sure all of your guests designate their drivers in advance, or help arrange ride-sharing with sober drivers. Keep the numbers for local cab companies handy, and take the keys away from anyone who is thinking of driving while impaired.

For more information on any of the OHS campaigns visit www.ohs.delaware.gov and follow regular campaign updates on Twitter at www.twitter.com/DEHighwaySafe and Facebook www.facebook.com/ArriveAliveDE.