

COUNTY OF OAKLAND
OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

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Oakland County Sheriff's Office Alcohol Enforcement Unit Makes 12,000th Arrest

For Immediate Release

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October 4, 2007 (Oakland County)- The Oakland County Sheriff's Office is proud to announce the Alcohol Enforcement (AE) Unit recently made their 12,000th drunk driving arrest. The AE Unit began in 1980 with a grant from the Federal Government and the State of Michigan. At that time, six deputies were hired and over the course of the next three years, over 1,700 drunk drivers were arrested by AE Deputies.

Some other highlights of the AE Unit include:

- 1980 Oakland County Sheriff's AE Unit makes the first drunk driving arrest on the first night of its existence in Waterford Twp.
- 1981 AE is the first in the State and only 1 of 3 in the Country to have mobile breathalyzers, allowing the AE Deputies to return to the streets more quickly to find more drunk drivers.
- 1985 AE Unit arrests 800 drunk drivers for the 1985 calendar year
- 1995 The S.C.O.P.E. (Stop Drinking, Consider the Consequences, Observe Yourself, Protect Society, Educate Others) Program begins. AE Deputies begin going to Oakland County high schools educating students on the effects of drinking and driving. To date, over 100,000 students have been educated.
- 2001 On March 17, 2001, AE Unit makes it's 10,000th drunk driving arrest in Orion Township.
- 2006 AE Unit continues to break records in drunk driving arrests during the "You Drink, You Drive, You Lose" campaign.
- 2007 On September 24, 2007, AE Unit arrests its 12,000th drunk driver. The driver had 4 prior alcohol convictions.

Now funded by Oakland County, the Oakland County Sheriff's AE Unit's dedication to keeping drunk drivers off the roadways is unparalleled, with an impressive conviction rate of over 99%. The AE Unit works with community groups such as MADD as well as other community coalitions to combat drinking and driving, underage drinking, and implement and execute zero tolerance programs.