2015 National Law Enforcement Challenge

Impaired Driving

Problem Identification

The Hanover County Sheriff's Office understands that Impaired Driving is a very serious problem in today's society that can cause economic and life altering affects. Each year, the Traffic Safety Unit tracks and evaluates countywide crash data to determine the locations of alcohol related crashes. The Officer-in-Charge of the Traffic Safety Unit publishes an annual review of crash data to determine the areas with the highest concentration of alcohol related crashes, and times and days of week most appropriate for enforcement counter measures. This data is used for enforcement purposes, such as DUI patrols and sobriety checkpoints.

Policy

The Hanover County Sheriff's Office Traffic Law Enforcement AO 62-1 policy is attached for review. AO 62-1 encompasses the entirety of the Hanover County Sheriff's Office traffic law enforcement policy. The attached portion of AO 62-1 has been reduced to the applicable sections for Impaired Driving.

Impaired Driving

Planning

Virginia's Strategic Safety Highway Plan calls for emphasis in the following areas pertaining to Impaired Driving:

1. Identify and promote initiatives to prevent impaired driving
2. Strengthen DUI/DUID enforcement programs
3. Conduct education and training on impaired driving
4. Develop and implement programs to reduce underage drinking and driving
5. Develop and implement programs to reduce recidivism

The Hanover County Sheriff's Office has developed a plan to address the impaired driving points of emphasis. The plan coordinated our local educational efforts with national impaired driving campaigns. These educational efforts were joined by targeted impaired driving patrols and sobriety checkpoints during the time periods Hanover County experiences higher impaired driving motorists. Below is an excerpt from the Traffic Safety Unit's memo to the Captain of Uniform Operations pertaining to the impaired driving operational plan of the Hanover County Sheriff's Office:

"Following are the proposed 2015 - 2016 Traffic Safety Initiatives for the Sheriff's Office. The dates were obtained from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and previous years' traffic safety initiatives. This is a DMV Grant funded activity. The DMV calendar year will begin in October 2015 and run through September 2016.

October 2015

National Teen Driver Safety Week)

DUI Checkpoint - Friday October 16

(Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving Halloween Campaign)

DUI Patrols - Saturday October 31"

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Training

The Hanover County Sheriff's Office trained 13 officers in initial Standardized Field Sobriety Tests in 2015. These 13 officers received their training as part of their basic law enforcement academy training. In addition to the 13 officers that received initial SFST training, five current officers were trained in SFSTs. Two officers that teach the impaired driving block of instruction in the academy attended the two-day 2015 16th Annual Mid-Atlantic DUI Conference in Virginia Beach, VA in April 2015. This conference covers advanced impaired driving topics such as:

- Effective DUI and DUID testimony
- Law enforcement phlebotomy
- Commercial motor vehicles and drug and alcohol offenses

Public Information and Education

In 2015, the Hanover County Sheriff's Office utilized press releases and social media to distribute public information pertaining to impaired driving. On November 20, 2015 a press release titled "Hanover County Sobriety Checkpoints Scheduled for November & December" was released. Social media announcements were also made on the Fourth of July and New Year's Eve to coincide with the "buzzed driving is drunk driving" campaign.

Impaired Driving

Public Information and Education

In addition to press releases and social media campaigns, the Hanover County Sheriff's Office continued its outreach to the public through educational programs. In 2015, the Hanover County Sheriff's Office hosted its annual Citizens Police Academy. During this 10-week program, topics are taught in DUI enforcement and general traffic law. During the DUI phase, students are shown DUI arrest procedures from start to finish. Also is 2015, the Hanover County Sheriff's Office continued its Explorer Program. This year-round program allows interested youth to learn about the functions of law enforcement. They receive instruction in the areas of occupant protection, speed enforcement, and DUI detection.

On January 31, 2015 the Hanover County Sheriff's Office also participated in "Operation Sticker Shock." This program is a youth led prevention program that targets persons 21 years of age or older who might illegally purchase alcohol for underage persons. Local youth place stickers on alcoholic beverages within stores. The stickers remind buyers of the consequences of providing minors with alcohol. This program represents a partnership between youth, licensed establishments, concerned parents and community members, prevention professionals, and law enforcement personnel.

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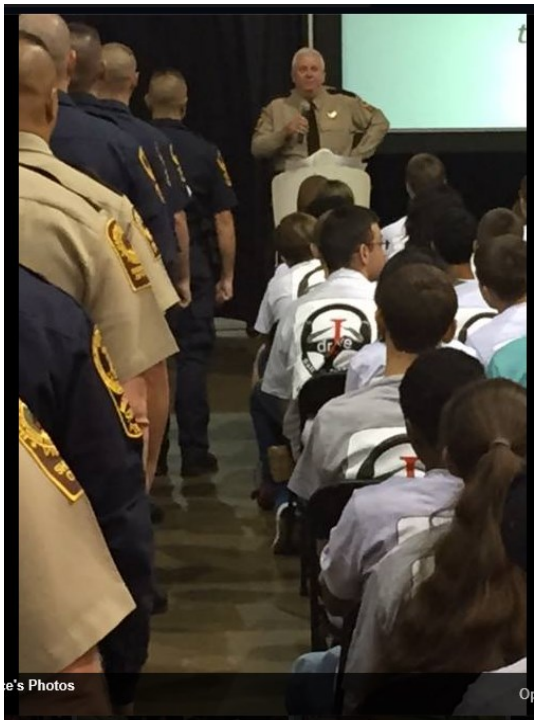
Public Information and Education

The Hanover County Sheriff's Office also partnered with AAA Mid-Atlantic , the Mid-Atlantic Foundation for Education and Safety, and Hanover County Public Schools to produce the 2015 IDrive. Safe. Sober. Focused. event held at the Richmond International Raceway on September 29 and 30, 2015. This is a teen driver safety event featuring educational and interactive demonstrations including a simulation station for drunk/impaired driving. The Hanover County Sheriff's Office contributed 10 deputies to this event.



Colonel David R. Hines (background) addressing the 2015 IDrive. Safe. Sober. Focused. participants. Members of the Hanover County Sheriff's Office (foreground).

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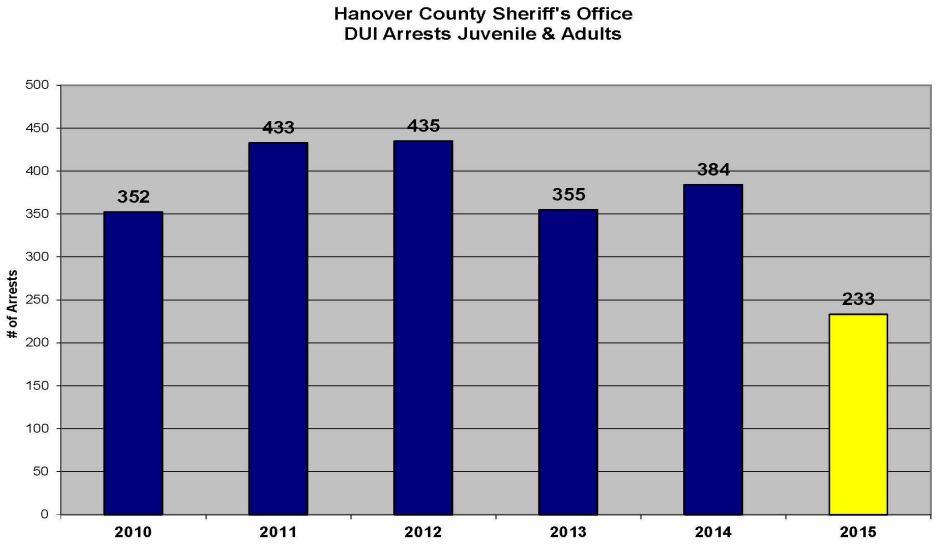
Impaired Driving

Enforcement

In 2015, the Hanover County Sheriff's Office conducted **219** special enforcement efforts including 214 DUI patrols and 5 sobriety checkpoints. The 219 special enforcement efforts totaled **1,751** enforcement hours. During these targeted times and in the targeted locations, **2,648** contacts were made resulting in **34** Impaired Driving arrests. An additional 199 impaired driving arrests were made during routine patrol hours. In total, the Hanover County Sheriff's Office totaled **233** Impaired Driving arrests in 2015.



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Enforcement

2015 TRAFFIC SAFETY INITIATIVES

DATE	CAMPAIGN	ACTIVITY	DUI ARRESTS	ARRESTS	SUMMONS
1/24/2015	Checkpoint Strikeforce	Checkpoint	1	1	3
1/31/2015	Superbowl	DUI Patrols – 10	1	0	19
2/27/2015	Smart, Safe and Sober	DUI Patrols – 4	2	3	6
3/3/2015	Hanover Cares	DUI Patrols – 3	0	0	10
3/3/2015	Buzzed Driving	DUI Patrols – 3	0	0	11
3/17/2015	Hanover Cares	DUI Patrols – 5	1	9	9
3/28/2015	Hanover Cares	Checkpoint	4	6	16
4/3/2015	Hanover Cares	DUI Patrols – 5	2	1	12
4/11/2015	Hanover Cares	Checkpoint	3	3	22
4/17/2015	Buzzed Driving	DUI Patrols – 4	1	1	10
4/18/2015	Hanover Cares	DUI Patrols – 5	2	2	13
4/19/2015	Hanover Cares	DUI Patrols – 5	1	8	2
4/22-23/2015	Buzzed Driving	DUI Patrols – 8	0	0	6
4/24-25/2015	Buzzed Driving	DUI Patrols – 6	1	1	5
5/5-6/2015	Cinco De Mayo	DUI Patrols – 4	0	1	2
5/17/2015	Buzzed Driving	DUI Patrols – 4	0	2	4
5/18-31/2015	Click it or Ticket	CIOT Patrols – 28	0	14	107
5/22-25/2015	Memorial Day Holiday	DUI Patrols – 15	0	0	17
5/28/2015	None	DUI Patrols – 5	0	0	7
5/29/2015	None	DUI Patrols – 8	1	2	8
6/6-29/2015	None	DUI Patrols – 12	2	10	43
7/3-5/2015	July 4 Holiday	DUI Patrols – 11	2	1	9
7/8-17/2015	None	DUI Patrols – 18	1	6	22
7/21-30/2015	None	DUI Patrols – 17	1	8	27
8/2-15/2015	None	DUI Patrols – 10	2	1	19
10/16-31/2015	Halloween Impaired	DUI Patrols – 6	0	5	5
11/16-26/2015	Click it or Ticket	CIOT Patrols – 35	0	9	138
11/20/2015	Thanksgiving Holiday	Checkpoint	4	23	31
11/25-28/2015	Thanksgiving Holiday	DUI Patrols – 10	1	2	20
12/19/2015	Holiday Impaired	Checkpoint	0	4	16
12/1-31/2015	Holiday DUI Patrols	DUI Patrols – 26	2	16	77
Totals		XPT – 5, DUI Patrol – 214 CIOT Patrol – 63	34	139	706

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Outcomes

Hanover County Sheriff's Office Impaired Driving Initiatives in 2015 were effective based on the decrease in alcohol related crashes by 9.7%, decrease in number of persons injured in alcohol related crashes by 10.7%, and the decrease in alcohol related fatalities by 33%. Alcohol-related fatalities have maintained a 66% decrease since 2011.

During the course of 2015, the Hanover County Sheriff's Office conducted 5 sobriety checkpoints, and 214 DUI patrols. These selective enforcement initiatives resulted in 34 impaired driving arrests. In total, the Hanover County Sheriff's made 233 arrests for impaired driving. Individually, Deputy Steve Tomlinson was awarded the MADD award in 2015 for his impaired driving enforcement efforts.

The Hanover County Sheriff's Office continues to put forth every effort to make the roadways in Hanover County safe for all to travel. Each year the agency conducts sobriety checkpoints and DUI patrols throughout the year in conjunction with impaired driving campaigns. Removing unsafe drivers from the roadways and reducing crashes remains a top priority of the Hanover County Sheriff's Office.

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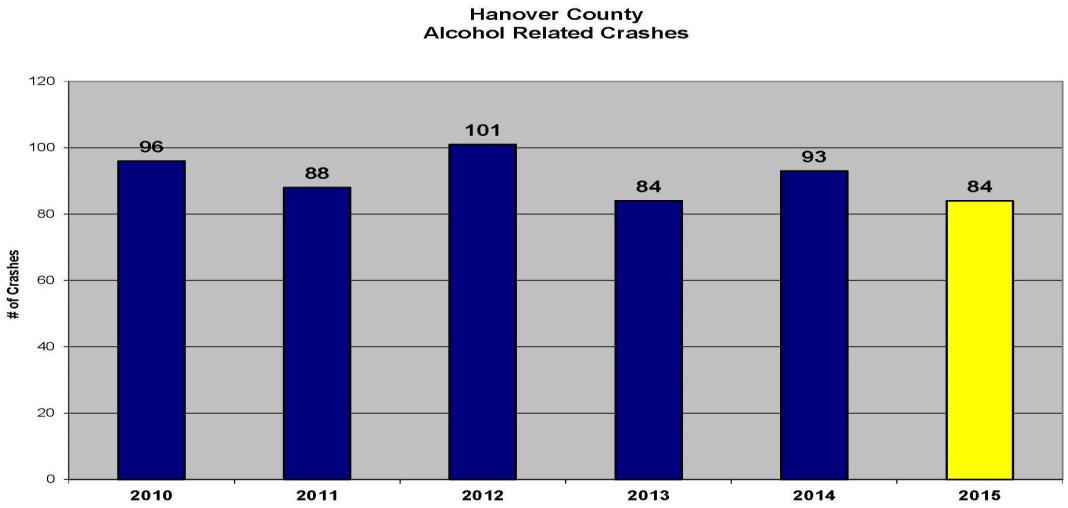
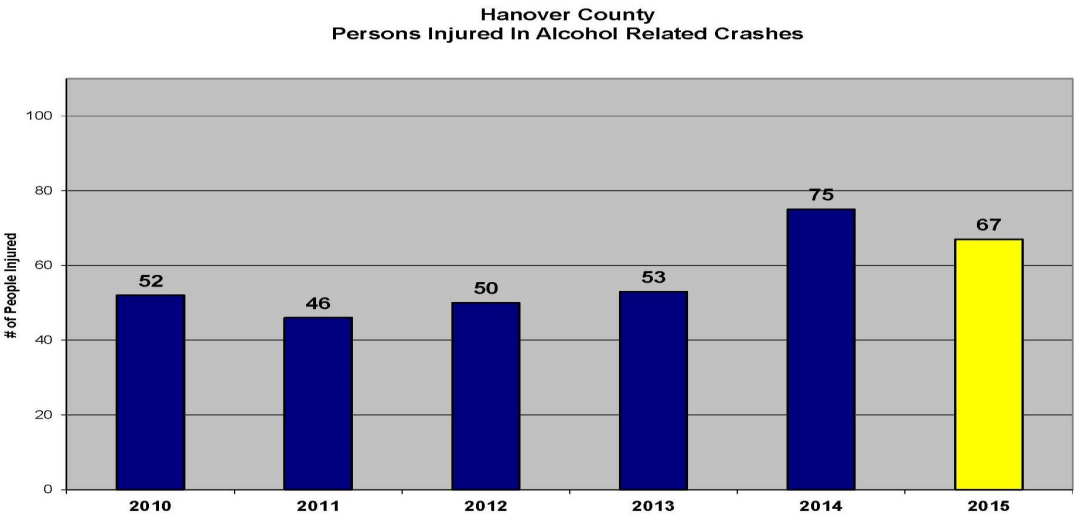
Outcomes





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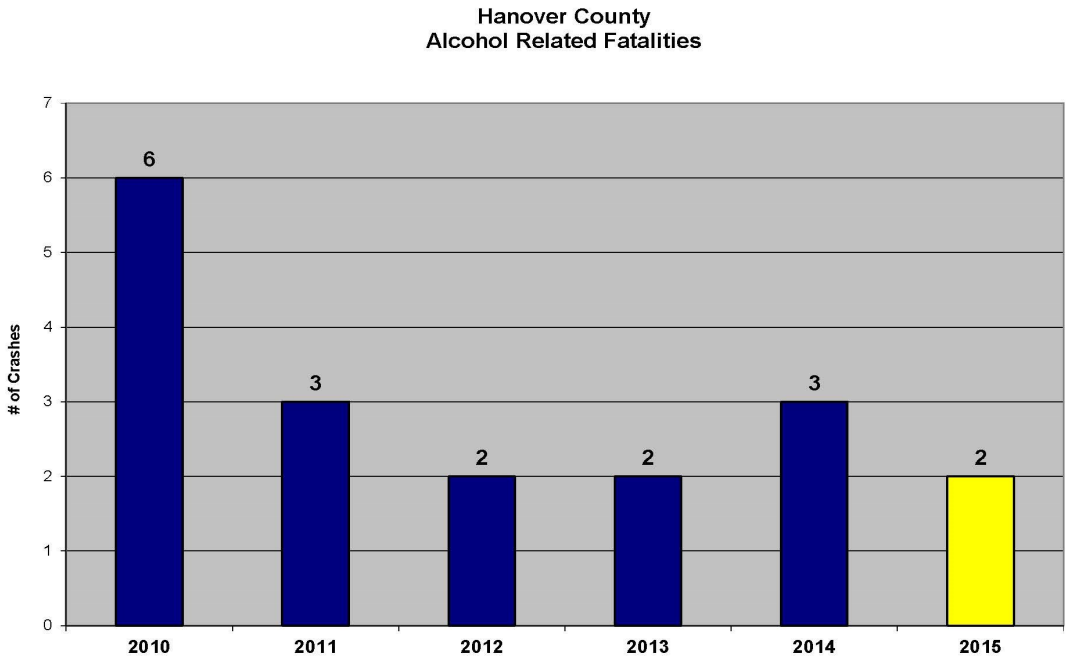
Outcomes