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Released By: Wendy Rose

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DUI Checkpoint Planned

The Sarasota County Sheriff's Office will conduct a DUI Checkpoint over Labor Day Weekend. The location will not be released, but the hours of operation are from 10:00 p.m., Friday, September 4, 2009, to 3:00 a.m., Saturday, September 5, 2009.

Motorists will recognize the Checkpoint operation by the staging of appropriate signs, warning devices and the presence of uniformed law enforcement personnel.

The Sarasota County Sheriff's Office made 438 DUI arrests in 2009 through the end of July, compared to 303 for the same period in 2008, a 45% increase.

"A crash involving an impaired driver is not an accident," said Sheriff Tom Knight. "Motorists who are under the influence of drugs or alcohol are a danger to themselves and to the citizens of Sarasota County, and we don't want them driving on our streets."