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## Illinois State Police Announce Alcohol Countermeasure Enforcement Patrols in Cook County

Downers Grove, IL – Illinois State Police District 15 Commander Dominic Chiappini announced today that officers will conduct Alcohol Countermeasure Enforcement (ACE) patrols during the month of October on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294/I-80) in Cook County.

Illinois Secretary of State statistics for 2017 revealed that more than 27,000 individuals were arrested for driving under the influence (DUI) and nearly one-third of all fatal motor vehicle crashes involved alcohol. The ACE program focuses enforcement efforts on drivers who are impaired and underage minors who are illegally consuming or possessing alcohol. These patrols will be conducted during nighttime hours when impaired driving occurs at the highest rate.

Illinois State Police Troopers will have a zero-tolerance approach to drivers who are driving impaired and underage drivers who have consumed alcohol. Drivers who are arrested for DUI may have their vehicle impounded and face suspension of their driving privileges for up to one year for a first offense. Drivers who are convicted of DUI may face fines of up to \$2,500 and possible imprisonment for up to one year for first convictions. Penalties for subsequent convictions of DUI include possible imprisonment for up to 12 years and fines of up to \$25,000 if crashes cause great bodily harm or permanent disfigurement to other persons. Underage drivers who are found to be driving with a blood-alcohol concentration over .00 can have their license suspended for 3 months for a first offense.

The ACE project is funded through the IDOT Division of Traffic Safety.

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