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Illinois State Police Announce Nighttime Special Enforcement Patrols in Cook and Lake Counties

Downers Grove, IL – Illinois State Police District 15 Interim Commander Jason Bradley announced today that officers will conduct Nighttime Enforcement Patrols (NITE) between February 28 and March 1 on the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80) in Cook and Lake counties.

Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) statistics for 2017 revealed that nearly one-third of all fatal motor vehicle crashes involved alcohol and 263 people were killed while not wearing their seatbelts. The NITE program focuses enforcement efforts on drivers who are impaired and occupants of motor vehicles who are not wearing their seatbelts. These patrols will be conducted during nighttime hours when impaired driving crashes causing death or serious injury occur at higher rates.

Illinois State Police Troopers will have a zero tolerance approach to impaired and unrestrained drivers during these patrols. Drivers who are determined to be driving under the influence (DUI) will be arrested, their vehicle may be impounded, and they may 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.

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

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