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Florida Attorney General's Office News Release

Attorney General Moody Urges Floridians to Celebrate New Year's Eve Safely



TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—As Floridians get ready to ring in the New Year, Attorney General Ashley Moody is urging everyone to celebrate safely. The <u>National Safety Council estimates</u> that more than 400 people may die on U.S. roads during the New Year's holiday. Attorney General Moody reminds citizens to be mindful of surroundings, never drive impaired and consider the safety of themselves and others.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "New Year's Eve is an exciting time to reflect on the past year and celebrate a new beginning. However, it is imperative to celebrate responsibly. I encourage all Floridians to plan ahead, have a designated driver and take measures to ensure you bring in the new year safely."

Attorney General Moody offers the following safe New Year's Eve celebration tips:

- Establish a designated driver or use a rideshare service if consuming alcohol;
- Stay vigilant on the roads as there may be an increase in drivers under the influence;
- Be aware of surroundings at all times, especially in crowded or unfamiliar places; and
- Use caution when handling fireworks and adhere to local laws and regulations.

New Year's Eve marks the end of National Impaired Driving Prevention Month. <u>The Florida</u> <u>Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles Crash Dashboard reports</u> more than 6,200 impaired-driving crashes occurred in 2022—leading to more than 1,100 fatalities. Check out a previous warning about impaired driving <u>here</u>.

Since 1998, The American Automobile Association's Tow to Go program provides a free confidential ride service available to both AAA members and nonmembers. For more information on Tow to Go, click <u>here</u>.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving is an organization with a mission to reach a future where there are no more victims of drunk or drugged driving accidents. The MADD website is full of statistics, solutions and helplines for Floridians. To find out more information, click <u>here</u>.

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