

**IF YOU FEEL DIFFERENT  
YOU DRIVE DIFFERENT  
DRIVE HIGH GET A DUI**

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## **This Winter Holiday Season, NHTSA and Law Enforcement Stress Importance of Safe Driving**

**Allison, Iowa** — During this busy festive season, the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and **Butler County Sheriff’s Office** are teaming up to remind drivers: *If You Feel Different, You Drive Different. Drive High, Get a DUI.* This high-visibility impaired driving awareness campaign runs December 11, 2024, through January 1, 2025. In support of the law enforcement community’s dedication to protecting the lives of residents in their communities, drivers will see officers working together during the holiday season to take drug-impaired drivers off the roads.

“This is a special time of year for many Americans, and we are urging drivers to be serious about safe driving. Impaired driving is illegal and deadly,” said **Deputy Menken**. “We cannot overstate the importance of abstaining from driving after using drugs. If you plan to use, plan for a sober driver. No excuses. During this high-visibility period, we will be monitoring drivers and enforcing impaired-driving laws,” **he** said.

Violating **Iowa’s** drug-impaired driving laws can be costly. In addition to possible imprisonment and license revocation, the fines can range from \$625.00 to \$9,354 depending on the OWI offense.

Many people believe that being high doesn’t affect driving abilities, but they are wrong. It has been proven that marijuana can slow reaction times, impair cognitive performance, and make it more difficult for drivers to keep a steady position in their lane.

Those who plan to use drugs should not drive. Even over-the-counter and prescription medications can have impairing effects. Drivers should secure a designated sober driver or call a taxi or rideshare for a sober ride home.

If a driver finds they are unable to drive, they should give their keys to a sober driver so that person can get them home safely. When a friend has been using drugs and is considering driving, friends should be proactive — take away the keys and help them get a sober ride home. If anyone spots an impaired driver, contact your local law enforcement or the Butler County Sheriff’s Office @ 1-319-346-6621.

Join NHTSA in sharing the lifesaving message, *If You Feel Different, You Drive Different. Drive High, Get a DUI.* For more information on impaired driving, visit [www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drug-impaired-driving](http://www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drug-impaired-driving).