



On Halloween, and Every Day, Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving
The Jackson Police Department Reminds Halloween Partiers Against Drinking and Driving

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 26th, 2016

CONTACT: Lt. Cole Nethercott, 307-733-1430, cnethercott@ci.jackson.wy.us

Jackson, WY - This Halloween, the Jackson Police Department is reminding Halloween partiers that *Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving*. If your Halloween party involves alcohol then you have to make a plan to get home without getting behind the wheel.

“Do your part to help keep our community safe this Halloween; if you’ve been drinking alcohol, make a plan to get home safely that doesn’t involve getting behind the wheel”, said Police Chief Todd Smith “Even one drink impairs judgement, so plan to get home by taxi, or designate a sober driver. Buzzed driving is drunk driving, so think ahead to stay safe.”

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 43 percent of all people killed in motor vehicle crashes on Halloween night from 2009 to 2013 were in crashes involving a drunk driver. Children out trick-or-treating and the parents accompanying them are also at risk as 19 percent of fatal pedestrian crashes on Halloween night (2009-2013) involved drunk drivers.

It is illegal to drive with a blood alcohol concentration of .08 or higher. In 2013, 10,076 people were killed in drunk driving crashes. Even if you drive drunk and aren’t killed or seriously injured you could end up paying as much \$10,000 for a DUI.

Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving, so follow these simple tips to stay safe:

- Plan a safe way to get home ***before*** you attend the party. Alcohol impairs judgement, as well as reaction time. If you’re drunk you’re more likely to choose to drive drunk.
- Designate a sober driver, take public transportation, a taxi, or a call a sober friend or family member to get you home.
- Walking while impaired can be just as dangerous as drunk driving. Designate a sober friend to walk you home.
- If you see a drunk driver on the road, contact local law enforcement when it is safe to do so.
- If you see someone you think is about to drive while impaired, take their keys and help them get home safely.