

# Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk: Super Bowl XLI - One Game. One Dream. One Decision. - Designate a Sober Driver

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Calvert County Sheriff Mike Evans announced today they are joining forces with the National Football League (NFL) and the Techniques for Effective Alcohol Management Coalition (TEAM) to remind football fans that if you're celebrating with alcohol, make the right decision before kickoff and designate a sober driver.

"We're reminding everyone this weekend that real Super Bowl Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk," said Sheriff Evans. "If your game plan includes celebrating with alcohol – whether at the sports bar or house party - make sure you have a designated driver in your line-up. And we are asking all party hosts and bar owners to take extra good care of designated drivers this year. Designated drivers make sure everyone gets home safely. For taking on such an important responsibility, they should be rewarded."

This local message is part of the NFL-TEAM season-long, Responsibility Has Its Rewards national campaign. Throughout the season at all 31 NFL stadiums, fans who made the responsible decision by pledging to be designated drivers and always buckle up have a chance to earn the ultimate reward – a trip to Super Bowl XLI in Miami, FL at Dolphin Stadium.

During the 2005/06 NFL season, nearly 100,000 NFL fans pledged to be sober designated drivers, even more are expected to participate this season. The Responsibility Has Its Rewards Super Bowl XL winners were John Aykens, the designated driver of the season for the NFC Champion Seattle Seahawks, and Molly McKenney, the designated driver of the season for the AFC Champion Pittsburgh Steelers. Patricia Mansker, the New Orleans Saints' designated driver, attended the 2006 Pro Bowl in Hawaii. Super Bowl XLI and the 2007 Pro Bowl winners will be determined after the AFC and NFC championship games have been played.

According to the 2005 Designated Driver poll completed by Data Development Corporation, 70% of the adult population have been a designated driver or have been driven home by one. That means 148 million Americans already know how to drink responsibly and prevent the needless tragedies that result from drunk driving. The message, "Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk," applies not only to Super Bowl weekend, but everyday of the year.

"We want everyone to make the right decision for Super Bowl, said," said Sheriff Evans. "Designating a sober driver should be an obvious call in everyone's play book. Making sure designated drivers know how much we appreciate their responsible decision is what will make this year's celebration extra special – and extra safe.

If you are hosting a Super Bowl party:

- Make sure all of your guests designate their sober drivers before kick-off, or help arrange ride-sharing with other sober drivers
  
- Find unique ways to recognize the designated drivers at your party
  - Give them a great spot to watch the game
  
  - Whatever non-alcoholic beverage they are drinking, make sure their glass is always full
  
  - Let them have the first pass at the buffet table
  
  - Make sure their car is easy to access so they are ready when it is time to start driving people home
  
- Serve plenty of food – and include soft drinks, juice, and water
  
- Stop serving alcohol at the end of the third quarter of the game (just like NFL stadiums) and begin servin