

NAPERVILLE TOPS POLICE DEPARTMENTS IN DUI ARRESTS

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Schaumburg, May 4, 2005: Since 1990, the Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists (AAIM) has conducted an annual survey of Illinois police departments to determine how many DUI arrests they make and to give recognition to the most productive departments and police officers. The most important deterrent to drunk driving is law enforcement. AAIM not only praises these departments and individual officers, but we also want to encourage them to keep up the fight against drunk driving and it's paid off.

Naperville Police Department has finished first in the state in DUI arrests among municipal departments. (Because of its size, Chicago is in its own category.) Naperville has been a perennial top-ten police department in AAIM's DUI ranking. According to Chief David Dial, impaired driving enforcement has been and continues to be a priority for the Naperville Police Department. "We have more people killed or injured in traffic accidents than all other crimes combined and it is a significant safety issue for Naperville and we will stay on top of it," said Dial.

In 2004, Naperville officers arrested 926 DUI offenders. Waukegan was second with 745 arrests, followed by Rockford (710), Springfield (567), Peoria (491), Rock Island (475), Buffalo Grove (452), Downers Grove (436), Gurnee (432) and Chicago Heights (429).

The highest DUI arrest rate in the state among departments making at least 100 arrests was Creve Coeur (near Peoria) which had 23.5 arrests per sworn officer. The second highest rate of 14.9 was in Caseyville (southern Illinois). Arrests per officer is an indicator of a department's emphasis on DUI enforcement.

Chicago Police Officer John Haleas was Illinois' Top Cop with 372 DUI arrests making his career total over 1,000 DUI arrests. AAIM also commends the life-saving efforts of Sangamon Co. Deputy Sheriff James McNamara with 279 arrests and Waukegan Police Officer Donald Paulsen with 267 arrests, also Springfield Officers David Dyer with 217 arrests and Lori Van Scyoc with 241 arrests. Illinois State Police Trooper Gregory Hart arrested 214 drunk drivers. The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) will recognize these top cops at a ceremony to be held in Springfield on May 11th. "When police chiefs make it a priority to get impaired drivers off the roads, lots of arrests are made," said Charlene Chapman, Exec. Director.

In a familiar pattern, the regions of the state with the strongest DUI enforcement are DuPage Co., which accounts for ten of the state's top departments and Lake Co., which accounts for eight departments. The Northwest suburbs account for eight of the state's top departments (Hanover Park - 12th, Schaumburg - 13th, Rolling Meadows - 15th, Mt. Prospect - 21st, Hoffman Estates - 22nd, Niles, 23rd, Park Ridge, 24th, Arlington Heights, 44th). There are seven south suburban departments in the top (Chicago Heights - 10th, Oak Lawn - 20th, Cicero 29th, Orland Park 31st, Aurora - 36th, New Lenox 47th, Palos Heights, 48th).

"More DUI arrests in the Northwest and south suburbs and in DuPage and Lake Counties don't necessarily mean there are more drunk drivers in those regions than in the rest of the state," said AAIM Executive Director Charlene Chapman. "It does indicate a more active enforcement effort targeting DUI by those departments compared to other departments."

The biggest increases in arrests among the top departments were in New Lenox where DUI arrests jumped by 143% in 2004 compared to 2003, Creve Coeur (71%), Arlington Heights (65%), Cary (61%), Carpentersville (59%), West Chicago (56%), Downers Grove (52%) and Palos Heights (51%). "It's highly unlikely that such big increases in arrests indicate corresponding increases in impaired drivers on the roads in those towns; it just means more of them were being detected and arrested last year compared to previous years," Chapman said.

Chicago police made more arrests in 2004 (6,755) than in 2003 (6,342), while Illinois State Police increased arrests by 14% in 2004 (8,594) compared to 2003 (7,568). The sheriff's department reporting the most DUI arrests was in Lake County (437), while DuPage (361), DeKalb (345), Sangamon (318) and Cook (311) counties round out the top five sheriff departments.

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[For a full list of Illinois departments click here](#)

DEPARTMENT RANKING

Rank: 2004 DUI Arrests	Municipality	2004 DUI Arrests	Percent Change	2003 DUI Arrests
1	Naperville	926	10.4%	839
2	Waukegan	745	-11.6%	843
3	Rockford	710	6.9%	664
4	Springfield	567	-5.8%	602
5	Peoria	491	8.1%	454
6	Rock Island	475	0.2%	474
7	Buffalo Grove	452	-21.5%	576
8	Downers Grove	436	52.4%	286
9	Gurnee	432	38.5%	312
10	Chicago Heights	429	23.6%	347
11	Carol Stream	386	-16.8%	464
12	Hanover Park	374	6.9%	350
13	Schaumburg	366	12.3%	326
14	Mundelein	364	37.4%	265
15	Rolling Meadows	362	2.0%	355
16	Elgin	345	-20.7%	135
17	Normal	329	-6.5%	352
18	Villa Park	323	5.6%	306
19	Oak Lawn	315	-18.8%	388
20	Mt. Prospect	310	-11.2%	349
21	Hoffman Estates	309	-16.9%	372
22	Niles	291	-1.0%	294
23	Park Ridge	274	3.4%	265
24	Lake Zurich	264	3.9%	254
25	Carbondale	260	-15.6%	308
26	Lombard	255	-19.6%	317
27	Cary	253	61.1%	157
28	Cicero	250	-1.6%	254
29	Elmhurst	247	-19.5%	307

Drunken drivers seen high on Naperville police radar

By James Kimberly
Tribune staff reporter

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In Naperville, veteran Officer Robert Maloney works from 3 p.m. until 3 a.m. and is not limited to a specific beat but free to patrol the entire city.

That schedule and the freedom to travel Washington Street, Illinois Highway 59 and Ogden Avenue in Naperville helped Maloney write the most driving-under-the-influence citations in the city last year.

Which is saying something, considering that Naperville, for the fourth year in a row, wrote more DUI tickets than any other Illinois municipality outside of Chicago, according to a report released Tuesday by the Schaumburg-based Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists.

"I just think we've got a good group of guys that aggressively patrol. They're out there, and they are looking for that," said Maloney, who wrote 105 of the 717 DUI tickets in Naperville last year.

Naperville wrote more tickets than Rockford (660), Peoria (567) and Waukegan (494). Suburbs that wrote a high number of DUI tickets last year included Carol Stream (463), Buffalo Grove (441), Hoffman Estates (378) and Schaumburg (378).

The group has been releasing annual reports on DUI enforcement since 1990 to recognize departments that do a good job of DUI enforcement and to draw attention to police departments that do not, said executive director Charlene Chapman.

The group surveys 700 of the 1,000 or so police departments in Illinois.

Although it requests drunken driving statistics from departments under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, only 57 percent respond, Chapman said. Most are in northern Illinois.

The survey covers departments that have at least five officers and the alliance does not study campus, railroad or forest preserve police departments. The Chicago Police Department also is excluded from the survey because it is so large it would be the top DUI ticket writer every year, Chapman said.

Chicago police officers are included in the alliance's ranking of individual ticket writers and the 374 tickets written last year by Officer John Haleas topped the state. Chicago police officers claimed five of the top 10 ticket-writing slots.

The strategy behind DUI enforcement differs from department to department.

Some municipalities like Cary in McHenry County dedicate an officer to DUI enforcement on selected evenings.

The strategy helped Cary's 28 sworn officers write 249 DUI citations last year, fifth among police departments on citations per officer basis.

"We just take the enforcement of DUI very seriously. We don't want people driving through Cary drunk. The safety of our town is important," said Deputy Chief Ed Fetzer.

Others expect all officers on a shift to enforce DUI laws.

Naperville Police Chief David Dial said the department places a premium on drunken-driving enforcement because "we continue to have more people killed or injured in traffic accidents in Naperville than from all other crimes combined."

Naperville, with a population of around 140,000, has a small police force of 188 when compared to other cities its size, Dial said. The city's ratio of 1.3 officers per 1,000 residents is below the national average of 1.8 for Midwestern cities with populations between 100,000 and 250,000.

Dial said the majority of people ticketed are stopped on busy roads traveling through the city, Dial said.

Although Naperville wrote more tickets than any other community, the number of DUI arrests in the city were down 22.6 percent from 2004. Dial predicted that Naperville would rank number one in DUI arrests again in next year's alliance report.

"The number of arrests is back up again this year," Dial said. "We didn't slow anybody down from driving drunk."

For the department rankings, go to <http://www.aaim1.org/duiarrestsurvey.htm>.

Municipality	2004 DUI Arrests	2004 Sworn Officers	2004 DUI Arrest Rate (per officer)	% Change from 2003 to 2004	2003 DUI Arrests	2003 Sworn Officers	2003 DUI Arrest Rate (per officer)	% Change from 2002 to 2003	2002 DUI Arrests	2002 Sworn Officers	2002 DUI Arrest Rate (per officer)	% Change from 2002 to 2004
Woodridge	74	54	1.37	-21.30%	94	52	1.81	32.40%	71	52	1.37	4.20%