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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NYPD to ramp up DWI related enforcement throughout New York City during the Fourth of July holiday weekend

Fatalities involving intoxicated or impaired drivers are down nearly 50 percent over last year, while related arrests are up more than 8 percent

New York, New York— The New York Police Department will step up its DWI enforcement in order to ensure the safety of hundreds of thousands of people traveling during the Fourth of July holiday weekend. As always, the department is ready to accommodate the large influx of people coming into New York City, and will make sure that every person using our roadways–pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists–will be able to arrive at their destinations safely.

There have been 10 fatal collisions involving intoxicated or impaired drivers in 2016, a 47 percent decrease over the same period in 2015, while the department has made 4,358 arrests for intoxicated or impaired driving, an 8 percent increase over the same period last year.

"Independence Day is a time for families and friends across our great nation to get together under our flag to celebrate the birth of our nation," said Police Commissioner William J. Bratton. "In order to maintain the safety of those traveling to and from events taking place during the holiday weekend, the men and women of the New York Police Department will be out in full force conducting DWI enforcement throughout our city. We remind all those enjoying the holiday weekend to please do so responsibly."

"Every New Yorker should feel safe on our city's streets, and the NYPD will be out in full force protecting our residents and visitors this 4th of July weekend," said Mayor Bill de Blasio. "Vision Zero is our goal, and NYPD will be ramping up DWI enforcement to make sure drivers, pedestrians and cyclists alike can safely enjoy the holiday. I want to thank the hardworking men and women of the NYPD who will be helping New Yorkers celebrate responsibly and safely this weekend."

Officers manning vehicle safety checkpoints across the city will be on alert for motorists driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs and will take swift police action when warranted. These officers will be fully-prepared to arrest anyone who puts the lives of their fellow New Yorkers, or those visiting our city, at risk by driving while impaired or intoxicated.

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