



NEWS ADVISORY

Bruce Gordon, Director of Communications

Alcohol
and Gambling
Enforcement

Bureau of
Criminal
Apprehension

Driver
and Vehicle
Services

Emergency
Communication
Networks

Homeland
Security and
Emergency
Management

Minnesota
State Patrol

Office of
Communications

Office of
Justice Programs

Office of
Pipeline Safety

Office of
Traffic Safety

State Fire Marshal

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 1, 2017

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MEDIA AVAILABILITY: DPS OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS GAMBLING AND DRUNK DRIVING SUPER BOWL WEEKEND

Don't Gamble Your Life or Livelihood Away with Poor Choices

WHAT: Super Bowl Sunday — a time to gather with friends and family for one of the most watched games of the year. It's also one of the most dangerous times on Minnesota roads and one of the biggest days of the year for illegal gambling.

To discuss drunk driving and gambling concerns during the big game, subject matter experts from the Department of Public Safety will be available to speak with reporters.

Each year, an average of 164 people are arrested for drunk driving on Super Bowl Sunday, averaging out to nearly four per hour, similar to New Year's Eve and Thanksgiving.

- New Year's Eve (3.9/hour)
- Super Bowl (3.7/hour)
- Thanksgiving (3.7/hour)

The party atmosphere can include millions of Americans making a friendly wager or spending money on a football board square or football numbers as they take in the game. Illegal betting can cost an establishment its liquor or charitable gambling license.

WHEN: Thursday, Feb. 2, 11 a.m.

WHERE: Minnesota Department of Public Safety Media Room
445 Minnesota St., Suite 100, St. Paul
Enter through media room doors adjacent to Town Square drive-thru

WHO: Special Agent Terry Kelley, Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division
Donna Berger, Office of Traffic Safety director
Lt. Robert Zak, Minnesota State Patrol

WHY:

Drunk Driving

Drunk driving-related crashes are a leading cause of traffic deaths in Minnesota. During Super Bowl Sunday, hundreds of drivers make the poor choice of getting behind the wheel after drinking.

Super Bowl DWIs (Sunday – Monday)

2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
124 (preliminary)	156	182	147	211

Gambling

- According to the [American Gaming Association](#), people will bet \$4.7 billion on the Super Bowl with 97 percent of all bets being placed illegally.
- Bar owners can be held accountable through criminal and civil penalties if illegal gambling occurs at their establishment.
- It's important to oversee gambling activities to make sure they are fair to the consumer and prevent establishments from having a competitive advantage.
- To educate the public on legal and illegal gambling activity, the Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division created a [Minnesota Gambling Regulations Brochure](#).

Editor's Note: A broadcast-quality live stream of the media availability will appear on YouTube at the following link: <https://youtu.be/BSF2OPvxHFE>. If our Internet connection is interrupted, or if you experience technical issues during the live event, you can access a recorded version posted to the [Minnesota Department of Public Safety YouTube channel](#) soon after the media availability has ended.

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