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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SFPD TO TEENAGE DRIVERS: WE CARE ABOUT YOU! STAY SOBER!

San Fernando, CA – As we approach the graduation of hundreds of local High School Seniors, San Fernando Police Chief Anthony Vairo urges teens and young adults not to drink or use any controlled substance and drive. As part of the department's commitment to the safety of our youth and community at large, San Fernando Police will conduct a Traffic Enforcement Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Saturation Patrol Detail during High School Graduation weekend on Friday, June 7, 2019.

Chief Vairo said, "We care deeply about the youth of our community and their future. For this reason, the San Fernando Police Department will deploy increased resources on Friday, June 7th and will conduct a Driving Under the Influence Saturation Patrol Detail focused on teen drivers operating motor vehicles under the influence of alcoholic beverages and controlled substances. Driving while impaired is illegal. This includes legal or illegal drugs as well as alcohol and cannabis. Most importantly, driving while under the influence can lead to arrest and more seriously, an accident, injury or death."

California law provides for a Zero Tolerance for persons under the age of 21 driving a motor vehicle while under the influence. Under Vehicle Code Section 23136 (c)(1), persons under the age of 21 are required to provide a preliminary breath sample in the field to an officer and refusal can result in loss of driving privileges for up to three years.

According to the California Highway Patrol, nearly 3,000 people were killed in alcohol-involved collisions in California during the past three years (2016-2018). During that same time, nearly 80,000 others were injured, statewide under similar circumstances. More than one-third of all traffic-related deaths in California involved alcohol.

Our mission at the San Fernando Police Department is to serve with honor and integrity, protecting the lives and property of all who live in, visit or work in San Fernando. Please don't drink or use any impairing substance and drive.

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