

# JOPLIN

# POLICE

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## NEWS RELEASE

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*Joplin Police Department Cracking Down on Impaired Drivers March 13<sup>th</sup> through March 16<sup>th</sup>*

(Joplin, MO) –The sobering fact is that impaired driving contributes to nearly 30 percent of all Missouri traffic fatalities. In 2011, 218 people were killed and 867 were seriously injured in crashes involving an impaired driver. That’s why Joplin Police Department, along with the Southwest Missouri DWI taskforce, will conduct a DWI checkpoint this upcoming weekend.

Consequences of impaired driving include jail time, loss of driver licenses, and being required to have an ignition interlock installed. Insurance rates go up. Other financial hits include attorney fees, court costs, lost time at work, and the potential loss of job or job prospects. When family, friends and co-workers find out, violators can also face tremendous personal embarrassment and humiliation.

Joplin Police Department wants all drivers to realize that driving impaired is simply not worth all the consequences.