

# JOPLIN

# POLICE

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Matt Stewart  
Chief of Police

## NEWS RELEASE

**UPDATE: The checkpoint was scheduled for Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. Due to the heavy rain and diminished visibility on the roadways, the checkpoint was canceled.**

**For Release:** April 27th, 2016

**For More Information Contact:** Sgt. Jared Delzell @ 417-627-8880 or Officer Jared Swann @ 417-623-3131 ext.479

*The Joplin Police Department is Cracking Down on Impaired Drivers April 28<sup>th</sup> through May 1st.*

(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.