

# **Delaware General Health District**

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A Safe Communities Grantee of the Ohio Department of Public Safety

# PHOTO NEWS RELEASE

**‘DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER’ SAFETY CAMPAIGN STARTS**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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*Delaware County Prosecuting Attorney Carol O'Brien addresses law enforcement officers and members of the media during the "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" kickoff ceremony Friday at Columbus Mitsubishi North. With the prosecutor are Chief Deputy John Petrozzi of the Delaware County Sheriff's Office and Lt. Kevin Knapp, Commander of the Delaware Post of the Ohio Highway Patrol.*

**DELAWARE, Oh., August 19, 2011** – Delaware County law enforcement leaders and prosecutors kicked off the local “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” safety campaign with a ceremony this morning at Mitsubishi North.

Delaware County Prosecutor Carol O’Brien and local Highway Patrol Post Commander Lt. Kevin Knapp both addressed the need to keep motorists safe from impaired drivers. The Delaware County Sheriff’s Office, local police departments, and the Highway Patrol all will be mobilized in the coming weeks to arrest drunken drivers.

The U.S. 23 corridor just north of the Delaware-Franklin county line, where today’s kickoff ceremony was conducted, has seen 323 arrests for impaired driving in the last 12 months. Drivers impaired by alcohol or drugs have been implicated in nearly half of the fatal crashes in Delaware County in the last two years, according to Jackie Bain of the Delaware General Health District. Bain coordinates the Delaware County Safe Communities-Safe Kids Coalition which helped organize today’s event.

Lt. Knapp also announced that a sobriety checkpoint is planned tonight along U.S. 23 in the same Southern Delaware County vicinity. Also speaking were Assistant Delaware City Prosecutor Mark Corotto and Delaware County Sheriff’s Chief Deputy John Petrozzi, and several other public safety agencies were represented.