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VIPD Launches Holiday DUI Crackdown Across the Virgin Islands

With the holiday season approaching, targeted enforcement will focus on DUI checkpoints and patrols on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John to reduce impaired driving incidents

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Monday marks the beginning of a new targeted enforcement initiative from the V.I. Department. As the holiday season approaches, VIPD “will be conducting heightened DUI enforcement efforts,” through to the end of the year, according to a press release issued on Friday.

Thanksgiving and Christmas usually mean a spike in traffic-related incidents due to alcohol consumption, VIPD says. The Traffic Investigation Bureau will therefore be focusing on DUI enforcement across the territory, along major roadways on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John.

Checkpoints will be established and officers will conduct patrols, mainly focusing on identifying and apprehending impaired drivers. The VIPD is reminding the public that while a primary factor, alcohol is not the only substance that can contribute to impaired driving.

The traffic enforcement efforts will also address other visible infractions, VIPD says, including passengers without seatbelts, unregistered and uninsured vehicles, tint and license plate violations, or other safety violations that endanger lives.

According to Daphne O'Neal, director of the Virgin Islands Office of Highway Safety, "Impaired driving is a serious threat to the safety of our roads, especially during the busy holiday season." The agency reminds residents and visitors alike to "make responsible choices behind the wheel" as the holidays approach.