



SOUTH LAKE TAHOE POLICE DEPARTMENT
NEWS RELEASE

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Operation Dry Water Targets Drinking And Boating Dangers June 27 — 29

South Lake Tahoe, CA (June 26, 2014) – The South Lake Tahoe Police Department Marine Units will be actively involved in California law enforcement officers Operation Dry Water over this weekend, June 27th through 29th.

Operation Dry Water is an annual nationwide effort to highlight the risks and dangers of operating boats under the influence. The stepped up enforcement raises awareness of operating boats under the influence of alcohol or drugs in advance of the Fourth of July holiday. Falling on a Friday, this year's Independence Day will kick off a three-day weekend for thousands of California boaters seeking quality time with friends and family.

Alcohol can impair a boater's judgment, balance, vision and reaction time. It can increase fatigue and susceptibility to the effect of cold-water immersion. Sun, wind, noise, vibration and motion – "stressors" common to the boating environment – intensify the side effects of alcohol, drugs and some prescription medications.

In California, it is against the law to operate a boat or water ski with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.08 percent or more. A person with a BAC less than 0.08 percent may also be arrested if conditions are deemed to be unsafe. If convicted, a person may be sentenced to jail for up to six months and assessed fines of up to \$1,000. Two convictions within seven years could add a jail term of up to one year. Boaters caught operating under the influence may also find their voyage terminated and their vessel impounded.

For more information on this annual event, visit <http://www.OperationDryWater.org>. California specific boating laws and safety tips may be found at www.BoatResponsibly.com.

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NEVER



BOAT UNDER THE INFLUENCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Law enforcement agencies nationwide take part in Operation Dry Water to deter boating under the influence

Operation Dry Water June 27-29

LEXINGTON, Ky. (June 3, 2014) – Law enforcement officers across the U.S. are gearing up for [Operation Dry Water](#) – the nation’s boating under the influence (BUI) awareness and enforcement campaign. The nationwide event will take place June 27-29. Alcohol use is the leading known contributing factor in recreational boater deaths in the United States.

During the three-day Operation Dry Water weekend, law enforcement officers at local, state and federal levels will be on heightened alert for those violating boating under the influence laws. In 2013, officers contacted 144,044 recreational boaters and made 290 BUI arrests during the three-day weekend. Thousands of law enforcement officers, along with their boating safety partners, will be on the water during Operation Dry Water educating boaters about the dangers of boating under the influence of drugs and alcohol as well as removing from the water those who choose to boat impaired.

"The mission of Operation Dry Water and the law enforcement officers who participate is to reduce the number of alcohol- and drug-related deaths on the water," says John Fetterman, [National Association of State Boating Law Administrators](#) (NASBLA) Deputy Executive Director. "Boating should be a fun and enjoyable time spent with friends and family; we are asking that boaters make sure their voyage remains enjoyable by boating sober. Too many accidents and deaths are caused by those who choose to boat under the influence."

In 2009, NASBLA, in partnership with the [United States Coast Guard](#), launched [Operation Dry Water](#) to help draw public attention to the dangers of boating under the influence of alcohol and drugs. According to the [2013 U.S. Coast Guard Recreational Boating Statistics](#), from 2009 to 2013 there has been a 37 percent decrease in the number of recreational boater deaths where alcohol use was listed as the known primary contributing factor. From 2012 to 2013, there was a 31 percent decrease in the number of alcohol-related recreational boater deaths – the most significant decrease in the past five years.

For more information on Operation Dry Water, please visit operationdrywater.org.

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