



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY COUNTY OF MADERA

MADERA COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER
209 W. Yosemite Avenue/Madera, California 93637
(559)675-7726 / FAX (559)673-0430

David A. Linn, District Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE:

Contact: David Linn
District Attorney
(559) 675-7726
david.linn@co.madera.ca.gov

Madera County District Attorney's Office Awarded Special DUI Prosecution Grant

Those arrested for DUI in Madera County, especially repeat offenders and those involved in fatal or injury crashes, can expect to face highly trained, specialized prosecutors, thanks to a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety. The \$131,585 grant to the Madera County District Attorney's Office will fund a Vertical Prosecution team that will work cases from arrest through sentencing.

D.A. Linn stated, "This grant and vertical prosecution team will help us to protect all of the citizens of Madera County and move us closer to our goal of removing drunk drivers from our streets and highways."

Funding from this DUI Prosecution Grant will aid the District Attorney's Office in handling cases throughout each step of the criminal process, prosecuting both alcohol and drug-impaired driving cases. In fatal and major injury DUI vehicle collisions, members of the team may respond to the crash scene to be part of the investigation.

Prosecution team members will work with the State's Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor Program to expand knowledge and resources in the office by obtaining and delivering specialized training, including training in the emerging problem of drug-impaired driving. Team members will share information with peers and law enforcement personnel throughout the county and across the state.

The purpose of the program is to prevent impaired driving and reduce alcohol and drug-impaired traffic fatalities and injuries. In 2013 there were 3 deaths and 86 serious injuries as a result of DUI crashes in the County

"Overall, California's roadways are among the safest in the nation," said OTS Director Rhonda Craft. "But to meet future mobility, safety, and accessible transportation objectives, we have to work very hard together to reach our common goal – zero deaths on our roadways. The Office of Traffic Safety and the Madera County District Attorney's Office want to work with everyone to create a culture of traffic safety across Madera County and the state."

Funding for the program comes from a grant by the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.