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#### **(Neb.)-State Patrol Enforcement Activities In Dawes And Sioux Counties**



By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 09/25/2012 10:08 AM

(Scottsbluff, NE)- Troopers with the Nebraska State Patrol Troop E, conducted a night time vehicle checks in Sioux and Dawes Counties on Friday and Saturday, September 21 and 22, 2012. These checkpoints resulted in seven minors being cited for minor in possession (MIP) and five additional individuals were cited for violation of the open container of alcohol in the vehicle law.

On Friday, troopers in Sioux County conducted a two hour vehicle check in which nine motorists were cited for various offenses including no front plate and one open container. In all, troopers checked 30 motorists. Saturday night in Dawes County, troopers were assisted by officers from the Chadron Police Department. This check netted 32 citations/warnings including seven MIPs and four open containers. Officers checked a total of 134 vehicles during the two hour enforcement selective. The enforcement initiative was paid for in part by a \$7,000 grant from Region I Panhandle Prevention Coalition for state troopers to conduct late evening and early morning vehicle check point operations.

Nebraska State Patrol Troop E Lieutenant Lance Rogers stated, "Minors possessing alcohol and being in a moving vehicle have higher potential to being involved in serious injury crashes or engaging in other risky behaviors. Other motorists who continue to consume alcohol while driving increases the risk to innocent motorists as well." Troopers will be conducting numerous enforcement operations targeting alcohol, restraint usage, and other improper driving behavior throughout the winter months in the panhandle. Motorists are reminded to obey the posted speed limit, always wear their seat belt, never drive impaired, and to allow plenty of time to reach their destination.

The Nebraska State Patrol offers a Highway Helpline for anyone who observes a reckless or impaired driver, or anyone in need of non-emergency roadside assistance. The Highway Helpline can be accessed by dialing (star) \*55 on any cellular phone or 1-800-525-5555 from any landline.

(Story courtesy of Nebraska State Patrol, Troop E, Scottsbluff)