



## Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT RECLAIMS TOP SPOT FOR MOST DUI ARRESTS**

### **ROCKFORD HAS REMARKABLE INCREASE IN DUI ARRESTS**

**Schaumburg, July 6, 2023:** DUI arrests and other law enforcement efforts are the most significant deterrents to impaired driving. The Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists (AAIM) is pleased to release the results of our Annual Illinois DUI Arrest Survey for 2022. AAIM has conducted this survey, which is funded by a grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation, for 33 years.

Since 1990, AAIM has conducted an annual survey of Illinois police departments to determine how many DUI arrests they make and to give recognition to the most productive departments and police officers. Nearly 700 police agencies were surveyed with 82% responding. AAIM not only praises these departments and individual officers, but we also continue to encourage them to keep up the fight against drunk driving.

The Aurora Police Department is first in the state in DUI arrests among municipal departments with 339 arrests for 2022. (Because of its size, Chicago is in its own category.) "Driving while intoxicated creates a dangerous situation for everyone in our community. The men and women of the Aurora Police Department are committed to aggressively addressing this issue in an effort to save lives and keep our roadways safe" states Aurora Police Chief Keith Cross.

"I am extremely proud of our officer's efforts and I would like to commend each of them for going above and beyond." said Cross.

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In 2022, Decatur was second with 289 arrests, Lombard (287), Rockford (283), Franklin Park (250), Elgin (234), Elmhurst (224), Naperville (224), Normal (217) and Bloomington (215). “The high number of DUI arrests reduced the likelihood of multiple crashes, the likelihood of injuries or deaths that leave families devastated,” said Rita Kreslin, AAIM Executive Director. “Focused efforts and cooperation of law enforcement agencies, traffic safety advocates, and communities have helped to prevent crashes and save thousands of lives.”

The biggest increase in arrests among the top departments was in Rockford (48.2%) where DUI arrests jumped significantly in 2022 compared to 2021. Other municipalities with increases from 2022 to 2021 are Normal (17.9%) and Aurora (4.3%).

The highest DUI arrest rate in the state among departments making at least 200 arrests was Franklin Park, which had 5.21 arrests per sworn officer. The second highest rate of 4.70 was in Lombard. Arrests per officer are an indicator of a department’s emphasis on DUI enforcement and are a measure that can be used to compare smaller departments.

Arrests made by the Chicago Police increased by 31.4% in 2022 (2,131) compared to 2021 (1,622). Illinois State Police arrests decreased by 31.6% in 2022 (4,213) compared to 2021 (6,596). The sheriff’s department reporting the most DUI arrests was Winnebago County (515), while Lake (279), Will (178), Grundy (159) and McLean (150) Counties round out the top five sheriff departments.

Illinois’ Top Cop with 145 DUI arrests is Illinois State Police Trooper Kevin Bradley. AAIM also commends Chicago Police Officer Joshua Zumarraga with 129 DUI arrests, ISP Troopers Daniel Pedreyra, and ISP Trooper Christopher Wittemann, with 121 DUI arrests, Chicago Police Officer Michael Phillips, 119 and Franklin Park Officer Alfredo Quinones who arrested 108 impaired drivers, for their lifesaving efforts.

“We are grateful to all law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line daily. Enforcement of DUI laws is often a thankless, time-consuming, and unpleasant arrest situation; however, it is one of the most important arrests that an officer can make regularly.” said Kreslin.

AAIM is an Illinois-only citizen activist group founded in 1982 by victims of drunk driving. Prevention, victim advocacy, and legislation encompass the mission of AAIM, a recognized Illinois expert on these issues. The survey provides a valuable service to Illinois citizens by encouraging them to compare the DUI enforcement record of their local police department with that of other communities. As a result, public pressure can be applied, where needed, to encourage DUI enforcement as a priority.

A detailed listing of survey results and participating departments is available at: [www.aaim1.org](http://www.aaim1.org)

Questions? – email: [anita@aaim1.org](mailto:anita@aaim1.org)

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