



## Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **AURORA TOPS POLICE DEPARTMENTS FOR MOST DUI ARRESTS**

### **BLOOMINGTON AND EDWARDSVILLE HAVE A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN DUI ARRESTS**

**Schaumburg, August 12, 2020:** 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 2019. AAIM has conducted this survey, which is funded by a grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation, for 30 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 81% 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 517 arrests for 2019. (Because of its size, Chicago is in its own category.) *"The Aurora Police Department has no tolerance for those who drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs and put other people's lives at risk," states Aurora Police Chief Kristen Ziman. "Combating the issue of impaired driving has been and will remain a high priority for our officers."*

*"We are proud to be the top agency in Illinois for DUI arrests in 2019. People getting behind the wheel when they're under the influence is an ongoing issue. We have to do better as a community and make sure our family, friends and the people around us don't drive drunk or high." said Ziman.*

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In 2019, Rockford was second with 509 arrests, Elgin (393), Decatur (361), Bloomington (349), Carol Stream (334), Naperville (295), Cicero (268), Springfield (247), Lombard (229), Edwardsville (213), Oak Lawn (209) and Elmhurst (207). “Law enforcement makes a difference, and AAIM has great respect for all these departments and officers for their commitment to DUI enforcement. We are grateful for their willingness to put forth the extra effort in removing impaired drivers from our roads,” said AAIM Executive Director, Rita Kreslin.

The biggest increase in arrests among the top departments were in Bloomington (43%) and Edwardsville (43%) where DUI arrests jumped significantly in 2019 compared to 2018. Other municipalities with increases from 2018 to 2019 are Carol Stream (19.3%), Oak Lawn (18.1%), Aurora (15.9%), and Naperville (13%).

The highest DUI arrest rate in the state among departments making at least 200 arrests was Carol Stream, which had 5.30 arrests per sworn officer. Since 2006, Carol Stream has been one of the top ten departments in DUI arrests per officer. This small department continues their significant impact in saving lives. The second highest rate of 4.84 was in Edwardsville. 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 75.8% in 2019 (3,235) compared to 2018 (1,840), Illinois State Police arrests decreased by 0.9% in 2019 (4,994) compared to 2018 (5,038). The sheriff’s department reporting the most DUI arrests was Cook County (307), while Winnebago (303), Lake (288), McHenry (226) and McLean (208) Counties round out the top five sheriff departments.

Illinois’ Top Cop with 196 DUI arrests is Illinois State Police Trooper Lucas Sniady. AAIM also commends ISP Trooper Eric David with 176 DUI arrests, Investigator Andrew Hartman, Rockford Police with 161 arrests, Chicago Police Officer Elliot Tupayachi, with 134 DUI arrests, and, Chicago Police Officer Jeffrey Kriv who arrested 127 drunk drivers, for their lifesaving efforts.

“Alcohol and recreational marijuana sales have surged since the Pandemic, which may mean more people are indulging at home. However, you should know that as bars and restaurants begin to reopen, and more people take to the road, DUI enforcement is still underway. When going out, plan ahead for a sober ride, the consequences of hurting or killing someone because you made a choice to drive impaired is heartbreaking and life-changing,” 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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