**2020 “Step In” Impaired Driver Campaign**

**Fact Sheet**

**The Holidays in December See Increases in Impaired Driving**

* According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 839 people in the U.S. lost their lives in traffic crashes involving a drunk driver in 2018.
* During the Christmas and New Year’s Day holiday period in 2018, there were more drunk-driving related fatalities (285) in the U.S. than during any other holiday period that year.
* There were 55 fatal crashes in December 2019 in Washington, the most crashes in any single month that year. Fatal crashes occurred in 37 of Washington’s 39 counties.

**Most Washingtonians Drive Sober and Will Step In to Prevent Impaired Driving**

* Most of us in Washington (78 percent) don’t drive after drinking; still Washington experienced 231 deaths related to impaired driving last year in our state.
* It’s going to take all of us to drive that number toward zero. And that’s exactly what’s happening. Most Washingtonians (81 percent), when in a situation to intervene, take action to prevent someone from driving impaired.

**Using Alcohol and Cannabis Together Lead to Crashes**

* Driver impairment from more than one substance – usually alcohol and cannabis – is the most common factor in deadly crashes.
* More than half of the drivers in fatal crashes who tested positive for cannabis were also positive for alcohol.
* By 2016, the number of drivers testing positive for impairment from two or more substances became the most prevalent type of impaired driver.
* If you use marijuana after drinking alcohol, you increase your crash risk.

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