



City of La Porte

Established 1892

Police Department

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the Texas Association of Police Chiefs



***Media Relations Information for 01/06/2017***

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## **LPPD takes no holiday break from DUI enforcement**



Over the recent Christmas and New Year's holiday period, La Porte Police officers proactively worked to keep area motorists safe from the actions of unsafe drivers who chose to operate motor vehicles under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

As part of the Texas Department of Transportation's (TXDOT) Impaired Driver Mobilization period from December 15<sup>th</sup> - January 1<sup>st</sup>, LPPD arrested a total of 16 impaired drivers. Seven (7) of the arrests stemmed from the efforts of specialized unit enforcement, accompanied by grant funding made available through TXDOT and the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC).

This is the fourth year the HGAC, a partnership consisting of 12 law enforcement agencies throughout the Houston-Galveston area, has conducted such Regional DWI Task Force operations. The Task Force is funded through a Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) grant awarded by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), designed for enhanced DWI enforcement during holiday weekends, when there has traditionally been more alcohol-related traffic incidents.

Since its inception in 2012, the HGAC Task Force has made 986 DWI arrests. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), in 2014, 333 people died in DWI-related incidents throughout the region. These figures represent 54 percent of the region's motor vehicle fatalities.

The La Porte Police Department will continue their enforcement efforts throughout the rest of 2017 in an effort to reduce the number of crashes, with even-greater attention during holiday periods. For more information on the agency's traffic initiatives, please call 281-842-3171, or log onto the department website at <http://www.ci.la-porte.tx.us/456/Traffic-Enforcement-Initiatives>.