



BLOOMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



Jamal A. Simington - Chief of Police
Paul D. Williams - Assistant Chief
Chad E. Wamsley - Assistant Chief
Aaron A. Veerman - Assistant Chief

305 S. East Street
Bloomington, IL, 61701
309-820-8888

For Immediate Release: February 5, 2024

This Super Bowl Weekend, Spread the Word: Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk

Bloomington, IL - Super Bowl weekend is here, and the Bloomington Police Department is reminding football fans and Super Bowl partygoers that designated drivers are the best defense against the dangers of impaired driving. If your Super Bowl celebration involves alcohol or cannabis, plan for a ride home with a sober driver. If you're hosting the party, take care of the designated drivers. Fans don't let fans drive drunk.

"The Bloomington Police Department continuously analyzes crash data in our community to determine crash hotspots. We know one traffic-related fatality is too many. In 2023, we had five traffic fatalities and numerous community members who have voiced concerns about traffic safety," said Chief Jamal Simington. *"We will continue leveraging IDOT traffic grants, coupled with a high priority focus on traffic safety enforcement, to make the streets of Bloomington safer for the motoring public and other users of the highway system."*

Whether you're attending a party, hosting a small gathering, or going out to a bar, keep safety at the forefront of your day and night. When it's time to leave, make sure your designated driver is sober. Remember that walking impaired can also be dangerous, so designate a sober friend to walk home with you. Also, sober driving isn't the only law that should be followed. No matter where you are seated in a vehicle, you must wear a seat belt. Distracted driving and speeding will get you a citation.

If you're heading out for a night of Super Bowl fun, make a game plan and follow these simple tips for a safe and happy evening:

- Always buckle up and avoid distracted driving!
- Drunk or high, it doesn't matter. It is never okay to drive impaired. Designate a sober driver or plan to use public transportation or a ride service to get home safely.
- If you see an impaired driver on the road, contact law enforcement.
- Have a friend who is about to drive impaired? Take the keys away and plan to get your friend home safely.

Media Contact:

Officer Bryce Janssen

Bloomington (IL) Police Department

Desk: 309-434-2355 | **Fax:** 309-829-0662 | **Email:** Police@cityblm.org

The Illinois "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaign is administered and funded by the Illinois Department of Transportation with federal highway safety funds managed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



###

If you wish to submit a crime tip and remain anonymous, please contact the Crime & Intelligence Analysis Unit (CIAU) at 309-434-2963 or email CIAU@cityblm.org. You can also text the number 847411 by texting the word "BPDTIPS", then a space, followed by your tip information.

The CIAU office is staffed from 8am-4:30pm, weekdays. If no one is available to answer your call, please leave the information on the voicemail or send it by e-mail.

Media Contact:

Officer Bryce Janssen

Bloomington (IL) Police Department

Desk: 309-434-2355 | **Fax:** 309-829-0662 | **Email:** Police@cityblm.org