

News Release

La Porte Police Department
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For Immediate Release

Date: January 4, 2012
Subject: December 2011 Traffic Safety Information

During December 2011, the La Porte Police Department investigated 36 property accidents and eight personal injury crashes which compares very favorably to the 70 property damage crashes and eight personal injury crashes investigated in December 2010. Three crashes were alcohol related in December 2011 as opposed to one traffic alcohol related crash in December 2010.

All in all, the La Porte Police Department investigated 536 property damage and 108 personal injury crashes in 2011 in comparison to 571 property damage crashes, 134 personal injury crashes and one fatal crash in 2010. There were 28 alcohol related crashes investigated in 2011 in comparison to 31 crashes in 2010. "Although the total number of crashes and the number of alcohol related crashes declined in 2011 as compared to 2010; we still have a lot of room for improvement in the area of traffic safety and we will be working hard to make the streets safer in 2012," said Captain Tom Heath. For 2011, the most dangerous intersections in terms of the frequency of traffic crashes were:

- E Lincolnway/Boyd Boulevard with seven crashes.
- E Lincolnway/Boston Street with seven crashes.
- Lincolnway/Tyler Street with seven crashes
- State Road 2 W/Andrew Avenue with seven crashes.
- State Road 2 W/K Street with six crashes.
- Pine Lake Avenue/Weller Avenue with five crashes.
- Lincolnway/Madison Street with five crashes.

During December 2011, La Porte Police Department officers worked 35 hours of Big City/Big County funded seat belt patrols and 73 hours of DUI: Taskforce Indiana funded impaired driving patrols. During these extra patrols officers wrote 108 citations, 126 warnings and made 13 impaired driving arrests. These extra patrols were funded through federal grants administered by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute.

For January 2012, officers will be working 30 hours of seat belt patrols and will be working impaired driving patrols on all weeknights when Bowl Championship Series games are scheduled as well as all weekend nights throughout the month. As always we encourage all of our citizens to always buckle up and drive carefully and never, ever drive impaired. Impaired drivers should be reported by calling 911; however we encourage motorists to report impaired drivers only if they can do so safely by pulling over; calling from a hands free phone or by having a passenger make the phone call. Together we can make La Porte safer for all of us.