



**Kevin Petroff**  
First Assistant

**Johnny Freeze**  
Chief Investigator

**Zonia Wilturner-  
Smith**  
Chief Executive  
Officer

# Press Release

For Immediate Release

December 29, 2015

## DISTRICT ATTORNEY ANNOUNCES NO-REFUSAL OPERATIONS FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE

GALVESTON, TX – Galveston County Criminal District Attorney Jack Roady announced today that his office will be working with law enforcement agencies across Galveston County in sponsoring No-Refusal operations for the upcoming New Year's Eve.

Statewide enforcement efforts are focused on a "Plan While You Can" message, emphasizing the importance of designating a driver well before the drinking begins. The designated driver should be a sober driver and not merely the least intoxicated one in the group.

According to the Texas Department of Transportation, there were 409 alcohol-related traffic crashes in Texas during the 2014-15 New Year's holiday (Dec. 31 – Jan. 3), resulting in 34 serious injuries and 16 fatalities. During the 2013-14 New Year's holiday, there were 337 alcohol-related traffic crashes in Texas, resulting in 37 serious injuries and 15 fatalities. Comparing the past two New Year's holidays, there was a 21 percent increase in alcohol-related traffic crashes and a 7 percent increase in alcohol-related traffic fatalities in Texas.

Anyone driving with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 grams per deciliter or higher is considered legally impaired. Under the No Refusal program, police officers may seek blood search warrants for offenders who are arrested for DWI and refuse the officer's request for blood alcohol testing. Blood samples collected can be used as evidence in the DWI cases.

A DWI arrest and conviction in Texas can cost \$17,000 or more: fees include car towing and impoundment, bail, attorney fees, court costs, hearing and fees to regain and retain a driver's license, DWI fines, probation costs, fees for extended proof of insurance, plus insurance rate hikes.

During the No Refusal program, local judges will be available to make probable cause determinations and authorize the blood search warrants. Prosecutors and nurses will also work through the night to assist police officers with these investigations.

---

Mugshots of active inmates are available at: <http://p2c.co.galveston.tx.us/jailinmates.aspx>

**Contact:**

Galveston County  
Justice Center  
600 59<sup>th</sup> Street  
Suite 1001  
Galveston, Texas  
(409)766-2355  
(409)766-2290 (fax)