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# Press Release

For Immediate Release

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## DISTRICT ATTORNEY ANNOUNCES NO-REFUSAL OPERATIONS FOR MARDI GRAS WEEKENDS

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 during both weekends of Mardi Gras – beginning Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, and again on Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, through Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>.

“Mardi Gras celebrations in Galveston County attract several hundred thousand visitors from all over. With that kind of traffic, we’re bound to see an increase in intoxicated drivers,” Roady said. “As part of our ongoing commitment to fight drunk driving, we’re working with all of our local officers to make sure they have every tool they need to keep Galveston County safe.”

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.

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.

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