



**OHIO DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC SAFETY**
EDUCATION • SERVICE • PROTECTION

NEWS RELEASE

Ohio Department of Public Safety
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Ohio Department of Public Safety to Observe National Alcohol Awareness Month

COLUMBUS – The Ohio Department of Public Safety will observe National Alcohol Awareness Month in April by promoting youth alcohol-awareness programs aimed at lowering the rate of underage drinking.

“More than 1,800 Ohio minors were arrested for alcohol violations in 2006. It is only through a combined and cooperative effort of the entire community that we can hope to stop the senseless tragedies associated with irresponsible and illegal teenage alcohol consumption,” said Public Safety Director Henry Guzmán.

The Sober Truth Program targets junior high and high school-aged students statewide by stressing the dangers and consequences of underage drinking. It covers topics ranging from laws and penalties, to real-life stories from the Ohio Investigative Unit agents who present the program.

The 21 Wait...Learn ...Live... campaign, conducts lunchroom presentations at high schools and encourages youth to take a pledge to wait until the legal drinking age of 21 to use alcohol, learn about the effects of underage drinking and impaired driving and live life to the fullest by choosing to say no to underage drinking.

Ohio currently ranks second in the nation in the number of underage drinkers. Data shows that alcohol is a factor in the four leading causes of death among persons ages 10 to 24: motor-vehicle crashes, unintentional injuries, homicide, and suicide.

For more information regarding these programs visit www.sobertruth.org or www.21waitlearnlive.org. To schedule a school presentation, please call 614-466-4344.

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