



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, during this holiday season – and throughout the entire year – New Yorkers are reminded of the dangers of combining alcohol and driving; impaired driving is an issue at the forefront of our State's transportation safety agenda and by enacting tough laws and providing strong support for driving while intoxicated/under the influence (DWI/DUI) prevention efforts at the local level, New York State continues to make progress in reducing the incidence of crashes and fatalities due to alcohol consumption; and

Whereas, most importantly, our efforts have helped save countless lives and made our communities safer through sensible legislative measures and innovative solutions to reduce alcohol-related vehicle crashes and fatalities; one of those solutions, the New York State Special Traffic Options for Driving While Intoxicated (STOP-DWI) Program, was enacted into law in November of 1981 for the purpose of empowering and coordinating local efforts to decrease alcohol and other drug-related traffic crashes; and

Whereas, the STOP-DWI Program had an immediate impact on roadway safety, helping to reduce the number of alcohol-related fatalities by 24 percent in its first five years, with sustained effects of decreasing the number of alcohol-related fatalities in the years since; and

Whereas, this initiative was the first in the nation to be funded exclusively by the fines imposed upon drivers convicted of drunk and/or drugged driving offenses and New York State STOP-DWI has served as the benchmark for similar programs across the country; and

Whereas, the Program received presidential recognition for its resourcefulness and effectiveness in addressing the problems of DWI and DUI, and Congress provided federal funding to incentivize other states to adopt the New York State STOP-DWI model; and

Whereas, the STOP-DWI Program continues to empower leaders in all 62 counties in New York State to develop original and collaborative strategies to address drunk and drugged driving and encourage drivers to avoid operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol and/or other drugs; and

Whereas, New York State puts forth the most robust efforts to improve safety on our roadways, and especially those that will bring an end to this dangerous and deadly behavior and help protect every vehicle driver and passenger; we recognize the STOP-DWI Program and its partners who work to convey the importance of never driving under the influence of alcohol and/or other drugs and whose invaluable work continues to forward our progress in reducing alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes and fatalities;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim December 2022 as

STOP-DWI MONTH

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this sixth day of
December in the year two thousand twenty-two.

Kathy Hochul
Governor

[Signature]
Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh