

## **Beware Drivers: State Troopers This Weekend Concentrating on DUI, Safety Belt, Cell Phone Laws**

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Connecticut state troopers are joining all state police agencies across the country in concentrating on enforcement of DUI and safety belt laws during the entire Memorial Day holiday weekend.

As part of the National C.A.R.E. (Combined Accident Reduction Effort) program, troopers will concentrate enforcement on all hazardous moving violations, seatbelt use and illegal cell phone use.

Sobriety checkpoints will be set up at several locations throughout the state over the holiday weekend. [[See the list here](#) — none of the locations on the list are near Darien.]

Connecticut state troopers are preparing for increased traffic during this Memorial Day weekend and for summer 2016 celebrations and vacations.

State troopers ask all drivers to utilize courteous driving skills, plan for traffic delays and make safety their top priority whenever they get behind the wheel. These actions will ensure safe travel to and from destinations.

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— [an announcement](#) (*slightly adapted*) from *Connecticut state police*

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Some safety tips – and laws – to remember: buckle up, obey speed limits, don't follow too close, remove distractions while driving, stay off the cellphone, and never drink and drive. Connecticut drivers are asked to set an example for others by obeying all traffic laws. Together, state troopers and state residents can keep Connecticut's roadways safe for all.

During this Memorial Day Weekend motorists should be aware that state troopers will employ all methods of enforcement to increase highway safety. State Troopers will use laser units for speed enforcement, as well as marked and unmarked, non-traditional police vehicles to patrol our highways and roadways.

Good driving skills, and patience, are essential to avoiding tragedies on Connecticut's highways. The enforcement efforts of our Troopers — along with drivers who follow state law — are vital to maintaining danger-free roads for drivers and passengers.

The goal of this operation is to join State Police Agencies across the country to enhance safety in all states. Motorists are reminded to expect heavy traffic, exercise caution and allow extra time to reach their destination.

The Operation C.A.R.E. holiday weekend will begin on Thursday, May 26 and will continue until midnight Monday, May 30, 2016.

A reminder to obey all traffic laws, pay attention to your speed and if you plan to drink, please designate a driver. If you see a suspected drunk driver report it immediately by calling 911, as this is a true emergency.

During Memorial Day Weekend **2015**, Connecticut State Troopers arrested

- 57 drunk drivers, charged 1,254 motorists with speeding,
- 1,454 with seatbelt violations and
- 4,548 with hazardous moving violations.
- In addition, troopers investigated 285 motor vehicle accidents,
- 49 of those with injury and

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- two with fatalities were reported.