

## **JIM MCMAHON TALKING POINTS**

### **MADD PRESS CONFERENCE TO LAUNCH *CAMPAIGN TO ELIMINATE DRUNK DRIVING***

**NOVEMBER 20, 2006**

- Thank you, Chuck, for inviting the International Association of Chiefs of Police to join you today. I appreciate the opportunity to speak to you.
- On behalf of IACP President Joseph Carter, I am pleased to stand here with MADD and the representatives from this diverse coalition, all of whom are committed to getting dangerous, impaired drivers off of our roadways.
- Every 30 minutes, impaired drivers kill someone in this country. That means that each day the lives of nearly 50 people are needlessly cut short because someone chose to get behind the wheel after drinking or using drugs. This crime is not restricted to one city or one neighborhood. It happens everywhere and that is why I am so pleased to see so many different groups approaching this problem from so many different perspectives.
- Despite our best efforts, impaired drivers remain a threat to our communities and we must work together to eliminate this menace. The IACP is strongly committed to the fight to make our roadways safer.

- To help law enforcement combat this problem, the IACP's Highway Safety Committee released a new report titled *Impaired Driving Guidebook: Three Keys To Renewed Focus and Success*. It focuses on three critical issues: law enforcement leadership, criminal justice collaboration, and effective communication strategies.
- We know that law enforcement agencies benefit from strong leadership and long term partnerships with each other. By working with other agencies, we can achieve results that no single group or agency can accomplish alone.
- State and local law enforcement has shown that effective, highly visible law enforcement efforts reduce needless deaths and injuries caused by drunk drivers. IACP will continue to focus on high visibility sobriety check points and focused saturation patrols.
- The IACP is committed eliminating the scourge of impaired driving. We are proud to endorse this campaign and eager to join forces with each of the groups represented here today. We appreciate the time and effort MADD has put into this new campaign. I am certain that all law enforcement agencies and our communities will gain from it. Thank you.