



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

ANDERSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

SHERIFF PAUL N. WHITE

April 11, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Prom and Graduation Time

Spring is in the air and it's a special time for our high school students and their families. Proms and graduations are traditions for our young students and the community. These times celebrate achievements, reflect on the past, and take the first steps into adulthood. Unfortunately, some teenagers believe the deadly mix of alcohol and driving is also a part of this tradition. Too many are injured or killed after the prom or graduation.

Students headed to the prom and from graduations are reminded not to drink and drive. Deputies with the Anderson County Sheriff's Department will be out in force on prom nights and after graduations. DUI, illegal drugs, and underage drinking will get you a ride to jail.

The Sheriff Department also reminds teens that getting caught drinking while under the age of 21 can result in losing their driver's license, getting suspended from school, ejected from sports teams, and even banned from graduation ceremonies.

Those establishments that sell alcohol are reminded to ID. Underage sales and purchases will be prosecuted. Spot checks of beer sellers will also be done and not only will the clerks who sell beer be cited but underage purchasers will be charged as well.

The Anderson County Sheriff's Department and the Tennessee Highway Patrol will be conducting saturation patrols throughout the prom and graduation weeks. This traffic safety effort is supported by a grant from the Governor's Highway Safety Office, Tennessee Department of Transportation.

On behalf of the Anderson County Sheriff's Department, please help us convey that deaths from alcohol related crashes are preventable. *Drunk and impaired driving is a choice – and a crime.*

Sheriff Paul White