

*** For Immediate Release ***

Captain Monica Alexander
Government and Media Relations

Date: October 12, 2018
Contact: Trooper Rick Johnson
Email: Rick.Johnson@wsp.wa.gov
Phone: (425) 766-0812
Twitter: @wspd2pio

WSP In King County Has Investigated Eight Traffic Related Deaths In Seven Days

King County: "This morning marked the 37th and 38th life lost on state routes and interstates in King County just this year and eight people have been killed in less than a week. That is not only 38 lives lost, but 38 families forever changed as the result of the loss of a loved one. Far too often, these tragedies are entirely preventable and caused by people that **choose** to drive impaired. Impaired drivers alone have killed 6 people over the course of just a few days. One life lost is one too many and 38 is simply alarming. The Washington State Patrol (WSP) will continue its tireless work in trying to keep people safe by strictly enforcing those collision causing violations that are costing lives with impaired driving, speed and distracted driving topping the list." Said WSP Captain Ron Mead, Commander of District 2 which includes all of King County.



10/12/18 – SR 18



10/7/18 – SR 518

"Through September 30th, 2,699 drivers have been arrested for DUI, and increase of **32%** compared to the same time period in 2017 and a nearly **50%** increase over the same time period in 2015. Clearly we have a lot of work to do as demonstrated by the six people that have lost their lives this week due to impaired drivers. We cannot, however, do this alone. Impaired driving is a choice, and a choice that far too often leads to tragedy. It is simply not good enough to warn people not to drive impaired, passengers have a choice to make as well. As was demonstrated with the tragedy last weekend, four lives were lost where passengers chose to ride in a vehicle with an impaired driver. I implore the public to make good choices on both choosing not to drive impaired and choosing not to get into a vehicle with an impaired driver as you may save your own life!" Mead added.

###

This Page Intentionally Blank