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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DUI Victims Tree Update – 16 Injured in Alcohol-Related Crash Last Week

Dover – Over the last week, Delaware police agencies reported 16 alcohol-related injuries as a result of motor vehicle crashes. That means 16 green bulbs will be added to each of the Office of Highway Safety's DUI Victims Trees in Kent, Sussex and New Castle Counties.

Each green bulb on the tree represents an alcohol-related injury and each red one an alcohol-related traffic fatality in the state during the Safe Family Holiday campaign, which runs from Thanksgiving through New Year's Eve. Since Thanksgiving 24 people have been injured in impaired driving crashes in our state. There have been no alcohol-related fatalities since Thanksgiving.

The DUI Victim's Tree is a way to bring awareness to the problem of impaired driving in Delaware. Last year there were two alcohol-related fatalities and 93 alcohol-related injuries during the holidays. This is the project's ninth year.

State and local police have been asked to report alcohol-related deaths and injuries to OHS each Monday during the holiday season so that the DUI Victim's Tree can be accurately updated on a weekly basis.

If you'd like more information about the DUI Victims Tree or the Safe Family Holiday Campaign, call the Delaware Office of Highway Safety at (302) 744-2740. Big K-Mart in Dover, WalMart in Georgetown and Boscov's Christiana each donated an artificial tree to OHS to support the DUI Victims Tree project.

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