

Area DUII Arrests Reminder not to Drink, Drive “ Police Step Up Enforcement

by Bend Weekly News Sources

State Police troopers in central Oregon had two separate unusual incidents that resulted in two drivers being arrested at the same time for driving under the influence of intoxicants (DUII) in both cases.

These incidents should be reminders during the holiday season that Oregon State Police (OSP) and local police agencies are stepping up DUII enforcement during Operation C.A.R.E. (Combined Accident Reduction Effort). In one case, shortly before 2 a.m. Sunday, November 19, OSP Trooper Jed Rzegocki was driving by the 7-11 convenience store in Redmond when he heard extremely loud music coming from two parked vehicles.

The trooper contacted the drivers of both vehicles, identified as Bend resident David Lee Finnell, 28, and Dana Michelle Kilthau, a 41-year old from Prineville. During the contact, Rzegocki established probable cause to believe both individuals were driving while under the influence of alcohol, and both Finnell and Kilthau were arrested for DUII. In the second case that occurred about 2:45 a.m. Wednesday, November 22, OSP Trooper William Duran stopped a 2004 Ford sport utility vehicle on NE Watt Way near NE Forum Drive for a traffic violation. The driver, 22-year old Natasha Koseki of Bend, was arrested for DUII.

During the traffic stop with Koseki, Trooper Duran saw a 2003 Volkswagon stop and park near the same location. When contacted as he walked by, the driver, 31-year old La Pine resident David Swanson, was also allegedly found to be under the influence. Swanson was subsequently arrested for DUII.

Both Koseki and Swanson were transported to the Deschutes County Jail.

According to Oregon Department of Transportation Fatality Analysis Reporting System, since 1990 approximately 40% of Thanksgiving holiday period fatal crashes involved alcohol. OSP and Oregon Department of Transportation encourage reporting possible intoxicated or dangerous drivers by calling 1-800-24DRUNK (800-243-7865) or 9-1-1.

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