

NEVER



BOAT UNDER THE INFLUENCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Hannah Helsby
Hannah@nasbla.org, 859.225.9487

Operation Dry Water 2016 Results **Law enforcement nationwide make 367 arrests for boating under the influence during 3-day heightened enforcement**

(Nov. 30, 2016 – Lexington, KY) In an effort to increase public awareness around the issue of boating under the influence, and remove impaired operators from our nation's waterways, the [National Association of State Boating Law Administrators](#) in partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard and hundreds of local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, conducted the eighth annual [Operation Dry Water](#) (ODW) campaign June 24-26, 2016.

The Operation Dry Water campaign coordinates on a national level, the saturation of thousands of law enforcement officers on the water just before the July Fourth holiday. In 2016, officers made contact with more than 130,000 boaters and made 367 arrests for boating under the influence (BUI) over a period of three days. The campaign's mission and the mission of law enforcement involved, is to raise awareness about the dangers of boating under the influence of both drugs and alcohol and to facilitate heightened boating under the influence enforcement just before a holiday known for drinking, boating, and fatal accidents.

This year, 538 local, state and federal agencies joined forces in every U.S. state and territory for the Operation Dry Water campaign. Law enforcement was out in force across the country not only removing hundreds of impaired boaters from the waterways, but also using the campaign as an opportunity to educate recreational boaters one-on-one.

Over the course of the Operation Dry Water weekend, 6,196 officers:

- Made 367 BUI Arrests for both drugs and alcohol
- Issued 18,569 citations and safety warnings
- Made 55,141 vessel contacts
- Made contact with 131,054 boaters

The Operation Dry Water campaign takes place year-round with an annual three-day heightened awareness and enforcement weekend taking place near the July 4th holiday. The 2017 Operation Dry Water heightened enforcement weekend will take place June 30 – July 2, 2017.

###

NEVER



BOAT UNDER THE INFLUENCE

About Operation Dry Water

[Operation Dry Water \(ODW\)](#) is a year-round boating under the influence awareness and enforcement campaign with the mission of reducing the number of alcohol-related accidents and fatalities through increased recreational boater awareness and by fostering a stronger and more visible deterrent to alcohol use on the water. Operation Dry Water was launched in 2009 by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) in partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard. www.operationdrywater.org

About NASBLA

The [National Association of State Boating Law Administrators](#) is a national nonprofit, 501(c)3 organization that works to develop public policy for recreational boating safety. NASBLA represents the recreational boating authorities of all 50 states and the U.S. territories. NASBLA's mission is to strengthen the ability of the state and territorial boating authorities to reduce death, injury and property damage associated with recreational boating and ensure a safe, secure and enjoyable boating environment. www.nasbla.org