



Traffic Safety Bulletin

We Serve and Protect

SEPTEMBER 1990

LeRoy Martin, Superintendent of Police

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE



5 oz. wine



1½ oz. liquor



12 oz. beer



.38 spl.

Put an automobile into the hands of a drunk and you've got a 3500 lb. bullet on wheels. In 1988, more than 800 people in Illinois died in accidents involving drunk drivers. Of that number 45 percent or more than 360 were sober victims.

While anti-drunk driving laws help to keep social drinkers from driving they do not deter the hard core drinkers who are unwilling or unable to stop driving when drunk.

Roadblocks offer one means of apprehending this dangerous segment of the driving population. The Traffic Division has been conducting these Roadside Safety Checks at various locations throughout the City in an effort to apprehend and deter drunk drivers. To date, they have resulted in 24 DUI arrests, 44 arrests for open liquor in vehicle, 182 citations for license violations, and several arrests for possession of controlled substance.

Recently, one of our own, Sgt. Joseph Elfayer assigned to the Traffic Enforcement Section, was killed when his auto was struck head on by a drunk driver whose car jumped over the median of the Damen Avenue overpass at 38th street.

Some officers feel that arresting and processing DUI's take too much time and are not worth the effort. The fact is any one of us or our families can become the victim of a drunk driver and by strictly enforcing DUI laws you can make a difference.