NTTA URGES FOOTBALL FANS TO HAVE A DRIVING SAFETY GAME PLAN FOR SUPER BOWL SUNDAY

PLANO, Texas – Jan. 30, 2015 – As part of its effort to keep roads safe, the North Texas Tollway Authority urges football fans to enjoy Super Bowl Sunday responsibly and designate a driver if they intend to drink.

Impaired driving continues to be a major – and often tragic – problem in Texas. According to Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Texas led the nation in 2013 with 1,337 deaths caused by a drunk driver.

Nationwide, 10,076 people died in 2013 in crashes involving a drunk driver – one death every 52 minutes, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. More than half of those fatalities – 56 percent – happened during weekends (Friday 6 p.m. to Monday 5:59 a.m.).

NHTSA recommends the following safety precautions for anyone taking part in this weekend’s Super Bowl festivities:

When attending a Super Bowl party or watching the game at a sports bar or restaurant:

- Designate a sober driver or plan another way to get home safely before the party begins.
- Use NHTSA’s new SaferRide mobile app. The app helps people who have been drinking get a safe ride home by allowing users to call a taxi or a friend and by identifying their location so they can be picked up. The app is available for Android devices on Google Play and Apple devices on the iTunes store.
- If you don’t have a designated driver, then ask a sober friend for a ride home; call a cab, friend or family member to come and get you, or just stay in for the night.
- Use a community sober ride program.
- Never let friends drive if they have had too much to drink.
- Always buckle up – it’s still your best defense against drunk drivers.

When hosting a Super Bowl party:

- Remember, you can be held liable and prosecuted if someone you served ends up in a drunk-driving crash.
- Make sure all guests designate sober drivers in advance or help arrange alternate transportation.
- Include plenty of non-alcoholic beverages at the party.
- Stop serving alcohol at the end of the game’s third quarter.
- Keep the numbers for local cab companies handy, and take the keys away from anyone who has had too much to drink.

Get more driving safety information from NHTSA.

About the NTTA
The North Texas Tollway Authority, a political subdivision of the state of Texas, is authorized to acquire, construct, maintain, repair and operate turnpike projects in the north Texas region. The nine-member board is comprised of Chairman Kenneth Barr; Vice Chairman Bill Moore; and Directors William D. Elliott, Matrice Ellis-Kirk, Mojy Haddad, Gary Kloepper, Michael Nowels, George “Tex” Quesada and Jane Willard.

The NTTA serves Collin, Dallas, Denton and Tarrant counties and owns and operates the Dallas North Tollway, President George Bush Turnpike, Sam Rayburn Tollway, Chisholm Trail Parkway, Addison Airport Toll Tunnel, Lewisville Lake Toll Bridge and the Mountain Creek Lake Bridge. The NTTA is able to raise capital for construction projects through the issuance of turnpike revenue bonds. NTTA toll projects are not a part of the state highway system and receive no direct tax funding. Tolls are collected to repay debt and to operate and maintain the roadways.

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