

## **To curb drunk driving, Nebraska law enforcement used more than \$30K in grants last weekend**

Written by Aaron Hegarty

OMAHA, Neb. —The Nebraska Highway Safety Office estimates more than \$30,000 was awarded to law enforcement agencies across the state to help curb impaired driving over St. Patrick's Day weekend.

Highway Safety Administrator Bill Kovarik says grant efforts to help agencies staff up around holidays work.

"They work in that the public will see an increased presence in law enforcement out in the area," he said.

For example, the Omaha Police Department says it was able to use funds to put 16 additional officers on the streets over St. Patrick's Day weekend.

Lt. Danny Flynn said officers jump on the opportunity for overtime.

Omaha Police officers covered by the grant made 15 impaired driving arrests. One was for drugs, the rest were for alcohol. Other officers made five more impaired driving arrests.

The Nebraska State Patrol says troopers arrested 10 impaired drivers. The Douglas County Sheriff's Office says it gave seven DUI citations.