



TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

February 11th, 2016
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Paradise Valley Police Department Receives DUI and STEP Grants

On February 11th 2016, the Paradise Valley Police Department welcomed the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) Director Alberto Gutier. The Paradise Valley Police Department was the recipient of two grants; a Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Enforcement grant and Special Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) grant. Both grants totaled \$25,000.

The first grant, DUI enforcement, recently took effect. A schedule has been implemented and officers can sign up for this detail.

Aside from keeping everybody safe on our Arizona roads, the costs associated with a DUI in Arizona are some of the highest in the nation. Average costs and fees for a typical drunk driving case in Arizona are as follows:

- Bail: \$200 - \$5000
- DUI Attorney Fees: \$1000 - \$10,000
- Court Costs: \$25 - \$1500
- DUI Fines: \$1600
(Second offense goes to \$4000 and a third offense up to \$10,000)
- DUI Classes in Alcohol and Education: \$500
- Mandatory Incarceration of at least 24 Hours
- A 90 Day Suspension of your Driver's License
- Possible Requirement of an Ignition Interlock Device: \$1000
- Auto Insurance Rate Hike: \$3000 Additional Per Year for 3 Years

The STEP grant is for aggressive drivers, school zone speed enforcement, stopped school bus violators and other dangerous driving behaviors. Paradise Valley has seen an increase in the last 4 years in vehicles traveling 20 miles or more over the posted speed limit (criminal speed). In an effort to thwart that behavior officers will be assigned in areas that are common to drivers violating the speed limit.

We wish to thank the GOHS for allowing us to keep our streets safe with these grants!



Photo courtesy of Andrea Ford. In the Photo, from left to right, Community Resource Officer Kevin Albert, Chief of Police Pete Wingert, GOHS Director Alberto Gutier, Officer Steve Larsen, Lt. Freeman Carney, Corporal Joe DiVenti and Sgt. Don Blume. This photo was taken in front of Kiva Elementary School on E McDonald Drive where officers will spend some time enforcing the school zone speed limit.

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