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## News Release

For Immediate Release: November 3, 2015

### **Durham Police Department's New MADD Patrol Cars**

The Durham Police Department is outfitting five marked patrol cars with Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) logos to remind people of the dangers of driving while impaired. One patrol car will be assigned to each of the department's five patrol districts.

In addition to regular patrols, the specially outfitted 2015 Dodge Charger patrol cars will be used at special events such as Booze It & Lose It checkpoints, DWI operations held by the Traffic Services Unit and speed enforcement operations.

"We plan to use these cars to raise awareness about the dangers of driving while impaired. We want to remind motorists that it can be dangerous, as well as expensive, to drink and drive. We partnered with MADD to strengthen our commitment to keeping our streets safe," said Durham Police Chief Jose L. Lopez Sr.

Durham Police Lt. Denise Campbell came up with the idea for the new MADD patrol cars earlier this year. Lt. Campbell was seriously injured when her patrol car was struck by a suspected drunk driver in December 2014.

The Durham Police Department has filed 364 DWI charges through October 31 of this year. They filed 472 DWI charges in 2014, 417 DWI charges in 2013 and 488 DWI charges in 2012.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) was formed in 1980 by a mother whose daughter was killed by a drunk driver. MADD's mission is to end drunk driving, help fight drugged driving, support the victims of these violent crimes, and prevent underage drinking. For more information about MADD <http://www.madd.org/>