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PRESS RELEASE

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**Solano County District Attorney's Office Awarded
Special DUI Prosecution Grant for 6th Consecutive Year**

Those arrested for Driving Under the Influence (DUI) in Solano County, especially repeat offenders and those involved in fatal or injury crashes, will continue to face highly trained, specialized prosecutors, thanks to a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS). The \$309,990 grant to the Solano County District Attorney's Office will fund a Vertical Prosecution team that will work DUI cases from arrest through conviction and sentencing.

District Attorney Krishna Abrams stated, "We are honored to be a recipient of this grant for the sixth consecutive year. The prosecution of driving under the influence cases continues to be a top priority of the District Attorney's Office. These cases often involve repeat offenders and traffic collisions resulting in serious injury or death. This funding allows for the vertical prosecution of these cases and the ability to work collaboratively with all of the law enforcement agencies in the county to increase the safety on our roadways and hold the impaired drivers accountable."

Funding from this DUI Prosecution Grant aids the District Attorney Office in handling cases throughout each step of the criminal process, prosecuting both alcohol and drug-impaired driving cases. In fatal and major injury DUI vehicle collisions, members of the team may respond to the crash scene to be part of the investigation.

In the past year under the 2016-2017 OTS grant, the vertical prosecution team filed 1643 felony and misdemeanor cases of driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. The purpose of the program is to prevent impaired driving and reduce alcohol and drug-impaired traffic fatalities and injuries.

Prosecution team members work with the State's Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor Program to expand knowledge and resources in the office by obtaining and delivering specialized training, including training in the emerging problem of drug-impaired driving. Team members share information with peers and law enforcement personnel throughout the county and across the state.

Funding for the program comes from a grant by the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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