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District Attorney's Office Joins Illuminate California Campaign to Support MADD

VENTURA, Calif. – Tonight, the Ventura County District Attorney's Office will once again light its Hall of Justice building in red to demonstrate solidarity with Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and their mission to eliminate impaired driving. By joining landmarks and buildings across California in the Illuminate California campaign, the District Attorney's Office aims to send a

message of unity, remembrance, and a commitment to safer roads.

"We are proud to stand with MADD and communities across the state in shining a light on the dangers of impaired driving," said District Attorney Erik Nasarenko. "This display serves as a reminder to make responsible choices so no more lives are needlessly lost."

The red lighting symbolizes the dedication to preventing drunk and drugged driving and honors the victims and survivors of these preventable tragedies. The campaign, initiated by MADD in 2022, is



Prosecutors from the Ventura County District Attorney's Office DUI Unit

designed to raise awareness during one of the most dangerous times of the year for impaired driving incidents – the holiday season. Between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, impaired driving poses an increased risk to public safety, and the Illuminate California initiative serves as both a remembrance of lives lost and a call to action.

The Ventura County District Attorney's Office DUI Unit filed 2,699 DUI cases last year, including 119 cases involving drugs and 17 cases involving a combination of alcohol and drugs. These alarming numbers highlight the need for continued education, enforcement, and prevention efforts.

MADD invites residents to illuminate their homes or businesses in red tonight as a shared commitment to ending impaired driving. More information on MADD's efforts and how you can get involved, please visit <u>MADD's website</u>.