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**NEWS RELEASE** 



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## Ventura County District Attorney's Office Awarded Grant From the Office of Traffic Safety for Specialized DUI Prosecution Team

VENTURA, Calif. - The Ventura County District Attorney's Office will have a specialized prosecution team that handles alcohol and drug-impaired driving cases through a \$427,117 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS).

"Impaired driving continues to be a growing problem in Ventura County," District Attorney Erik Nasarenko said. "This program allows us to focus specifically on holding those who decide to drive impaired accountable for their dangerous actions."

The specialized prosecution team will also partner with the statewide Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor Training Program (TSRP) to provide training to other prosecutors and investigators, as well as collaborate with law enforcement agencies on best practices handling and managing driving under the influence (DUI) cases.

This is the eleventh consecutive year the Ventura County District Attorney's Office has received funding from the OTS for a specialized (DUI) prosecution program. Last year, the prosecution team filed 509 DUI cases, including 376 DUI drug cases 77 DUI combined alcohol and drug cases.



The grant program runs through September 2023.

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