

## COUNTY OF FRESNO

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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

Today, the Fresno County District Attorney's Office announced that their office is receiving a \$500,000 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety to help their specialized prosecution team that handles alcohol and drug-impaired driving cases.

"Impaired driving is a growing problem, particularly with drivers suspected of operating a vehicle under the influence of both alcohol and drugs," Fresno County District Attorney Lisa Smittcamp 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 nineteenth year the Fresno County District Attorney's Office has received funding from the OTS for a specialized (DUI) prosecution program. Last year, the prosecution team filed 179 DUI cases, including 15 DUI drug cases and 14 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.

