**DA’s Office Prepares for a**

**No Refusal Holiday Season**

*Christmas and New Years Two Deadliest Holidays on the Road*

District Attorney Devon Anderson announced today that her office will have extra prosecutors on duty to assist area police with the enforcement of Driving While Intoxicated No Refusal laws over the next two weeks.

Under the No Refusal Initiative, a search warrant will be issued to draw the blood of any suspected intoxicated driver who refuses a breathalyzer or to give a blood sample. In April, the Harris County District Attorney’s office became one of the first Houston-area counties to enforce No Refusal every day.

“The more educated the community is about the effects of DWI on all of us, the more we can do to combat the problem our county has with intoxicated drivers,” said D.A. Anderson.  “This holiday season we have partnered with the Texas Department of Transportation and will display public service announcements on their message boards to remind drivers not to drink and drive.”

Additional prosecutors will be working to file cases on arrested intoxicated drivers on Tuesday December 24th through the morning of Thursday December 26th and Tuesday December 31st through Wednesday January 1st.

“Christmas and New Years are fun to celebrate with family and friends, but remember to plan ahead. If you’re going to drink alcohol at a party, make arrangements to spend the night or designate a sober driver to take you home,” said D.A. Anderson.

Harris County leads the nation in DWI fatalities with a tragic 43 so far in 2013. The purpose of No Refusal is to reduce the number of impaired drivers on the roads and make sure that number doesn’t get any larger.