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Houston, TX

**Expanded Crackdown on Intoxicated Driving
Protects Life & Liberty during July 4th Celebrations**
"No Refusal" program in-force through Sunday

As July 4th celebrations approach, District Attorney Pat Lykos today reminded the citizens of Harris County that her prosecutors are out in full force this entire week, working with area law enforcement officers to take intoxicated drivers off the streets.

"From the Revolutionary War to today, our warriors have fought and died to defend our lives and liberty," Lykos said. "The least we can do to honor their sacrifice is to respect the lives and liberties of others, and that starts with staying safe and sober on our roadways," she added.

Under the *No Refusal* program, assistant district attorneys partner with medical personnel and law enforcement officers who conduct special DWI enforcement patrols. State law authorizes the teams to obtain search warrants to draw blood samples from suspected DWI motorists who refuse voluntary breath tests.

Because July 4th falls on a Wednesday this year, this more intensive *No Refusal* approach will be in effect for 5-days in a row, through Sunday July 8th.

"Enjoy the holiday, but do so responsibly," Lykos added. "No one ever enjoyed a fireworks display from the back seat of a patrol car, so if you are under the influence either designate a sober driver or call a cab," she concluded.