



**THE COMMISSION ON VASAP**  
**Holiday Statement**  
**December 2011**

This time of year brings many celebrations and time for holiday cheer. The Commission on VASAP, while wishing you a happy holiday season, urges you to refrain from driving impaired.

Virginia Crash Data reports that last year during the holiday time, there were 42 alcohol-related fatalities statewide. The average blood alcohol concentration has increased to greater than .14, almost doubling the legal limit.

In 2010, during the months of November and December, there were 1,391 alcohol related crashes. Virginia CODES Data reports that the average cost for 5.5 days in the hospital resulting from an alcohol related crash is approximately \$35,000.

The financial consequences of driving under the influence are severe and costly. Additional consequences may include loss of employment, professional licensing, jail-time, license suspension, increase in insurance premiums, physical injury and even death.

The impact of driving under the influence is devastating.

Think before you drink.