



# Gahanna

## *Proclamation*

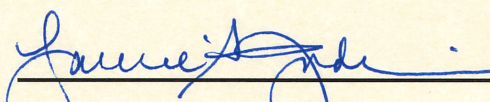
### ***NATIONAL IMPAIRED DRIVING PREVENTION MONTH DECEMBER 2023***

- WHEREAS:** National Impaired Driving Prevention Month has been observed for over 40 years to raise awareness that impaired driving can be deadly, and to put strategies in place for all of us to make it home safely; and
- WHEREAS:** Impaired driving not only puts the driver at risk, but also endangers the lives and safety of passengers and others sharing the road; and
- WHEREAS:** The holiday season is known for being merry and bright, but it also is the deadliest season for impaired driving; and
- WHEREAS:** For the past 20 years, drivers with a blood alcohol concentration at or above the legal limit of 0.08 have accounted for one-third of all traffic fatalities in the U.S., which equates to more than 10,000 lives lost each year; and
- WHEREAS:** In addition to alcohol, other factors such as illicit drugs, over-the-counter and prescription medicines, fatigue, and stress can impair driving by causing drowsiness, altering visual functions, and affecting mental judgment and motor skills; and
- WHEREAS:** From January through November 2023, there have been 31 OVI (Operating a Vehicle Impaired) crashes in the City of Gahanna compared to 30 OVI crashes in 2022; and
- WHEREAS:** From January through November 2023, the Gahanna Division of Police have made 172 OVI arrests in the City, compared to 171 OVI arrests during 2022; and
- WHEREAS:** Gahanna Officer Jeff Hoffman, Unit 37, has been an outstanding leader in helping to keep our roadways safe by removing impaired drivers from the streets of the City of Gahanna, and has received an Award of Excellence from Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for two consecutive years after leading his fellow officers in OVI arrests in the City; and
- WHEREAS:** The City of Gahanna expresses its appreciation to the Gahanna Division of Police for their ongoing efforts to enhance public safety by protecting Gahanna's citizens and its roadways through the detection and arrest of impaired drivers.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Laurie A. Jadwin, Mayor of the City of Gahanna, Ohio, urge our citizens to make responsible decisions and take appropriate measures to reduce the incidence of impaired driving, and do hereby proclaim December 2023 as



### ***NATIONAL IMPAIRED DRIVING PREVENTION MONTH***

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Gahanna, Ohio, to be affixed on this 18<sup>th</sup> day of December in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three.



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Laurie A. Jadwin, Mayor