



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF KERN

CIVIC CENTER JUSTICE BUILDING
1215 TRUXTUN AVENUE
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93301
(661) 868-2340, FAX: (661) 868-2700



JOSEPH A. KINZEL
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

CYNTHIA J. ZIMMER
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

KENNETH M. RUSSELL
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

December 4, 2025
MEDIA ADVISORY

CONTACT:

SDDA John D. Allen
(661) 868-2329

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Approved by CJZ
Press Release #25-136

KCDA Awarded \$885,000 to Combat Impaired Driving in Kern County
DUI Prosecution Grant to Continue to Fund Specialized Team

Bakersfield) - The Kern County District Attorney's (KCDA) Office received a \$885,000.00 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to fund a specialized prosecution team to handle alcohol and drug impaired driving cases. This is the fourteenth year the KCDA's Office has received funding from the California OTS for a specialized Driving Under the Influence (DUI) prosecution program.

In fiscal year 2025, the KCDA filed over 3,500 DUI cases, including over 200 DUI drug cases and nearly 130 combined alcohol and drug cases. Through the grant's support, the specialized OTS prosecution team will continue partnering with the statewide Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor Training Program (TSRP) to provide training for prosecutors and investigators throughout California. In addition, the team will be able to collaborate with law enforcement agencies on best practices for handling and managing DUI cases, and will have the resources necessary to prosecute all felony DUI cases.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented; "Driving under the influence continues to present one of the greatest threats to the Kern County community. We are thankful to receive funding for the fourteenth consecutive year, as it equips the District Attorney's Office with the resources needed to prosecute felony DUI cases, enhance collaboration with law-enforcement partners, and work toward reducing the devastating tragedies that affect our community."

The grant program runs through September 2026.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



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