

# Proclamation

## National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month 1996

**Whereas**, obtaining a license to drive is a major milestone for youth and a necessity for the majority of our citizens, we must teach young people the responsibilities that accompany having a driver's license. At the same time, we must teach them about the risks of driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol.

**Whereas**, all citizens and institutions need to acknowledge that a license to drive is not a license to kill, injure, or destroy, we must also recognize that when we drive under the influence of drugs and alcohol, we are saying that under certain circumstances it's okay to harm our families, friends, and neighbors.

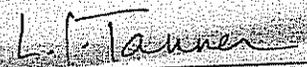
**Whereas**, we all need to take a stand against impaired driving, individually and collectively, intervening to prevent others from drinking and driving should be common practice among hosts and friends. We must use designated drivers and plan alternative transportation when we know we will be drinking. Through our schools, places of employment, houses of worship, and community organizations, we must send the message that drinking and driving is not socially acceptable.

**Whereas**, the holidays are approaching, I ask each citizen to make our community safer by not driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol. I also ask that on December 20 everyone drive with their headlights on to support National "Lights on for Life" Day, in memory of those who have been killed or injured by impaired drivers and as a reminder of the dangers of impaired driving.

**Now, therefore**, I, Wally Richardson, Mayor of Bethel, do hereby recognize December, 1996, as National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month, and Friday, December 20, 1996, as "Lights for Life Day". I call upon all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals and schools in Bethel to observe this month by taking responsibility for preventing impaired driving in our community and teaching our young people safe driving behavior.

  
Ruth M. Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
L.J. Tanner, City Clerk

