

THE DWI COURT REPORTER

A Publication by the  **NCDC**
NATIONAL CENTER
FOR DWI COURTS

NADCP GOES TO NASHVILLE

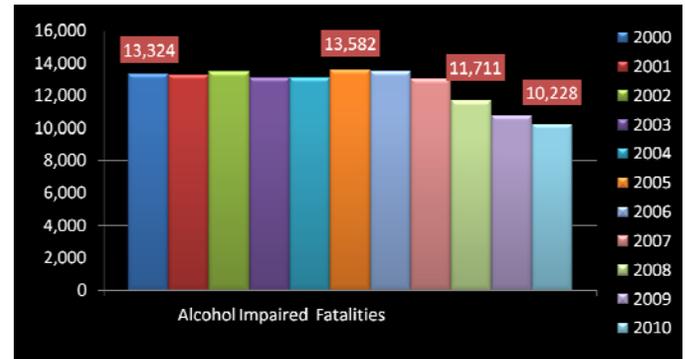
Join the world's largest conference on substance abuse, mental health and the criminal justice system in Music City on May 30-June 2, 2012!

Register now!



NCDC Applauds Reduction in Alcohol-Impaired Driving Fatalities

On December 8, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Department of Transportation released the 2010 Highway Fatality figures showing a five percent decline in the number of alcohol impaired traffic fatalities, down from 10,759 in 2009 to 10,228. These numbers have declined by nearly 5,600 since 1991. Alcohol impaired traffic fatalities are defined as crashes that involve a driver or motorcycle rider (operator) with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 grams per deciliter (g/dL) or greater.



The encouraging drop is owed to a number of factors including the diligence of law enforcement and the effectiveness of our court system. In addition, awareness groups have become increasingly innovative in promoting the

message of zero tolerance for impaired driving and the importance of designated drivers.

NHTSA is expected to release more comprehensive statistics including numbers on hardcore impaired

(Continued on page 4)

Inside This Issue

DWI Court—Changing Behavior, Changing Lives 2

38 Million American Adults are Binge Drinkers 2

NCDC Briefs Kentucky Legislative Task Force 3

DWI Court Leadership Award Nominations Being Taken 4

DWI Court Enhanced Training: Going Beyond the Guiding Principles 5

State of Knowledge: Female Drunk Drivers

By **Robyn Robertson**

There is no doubt that males constitute a significant proportion of the drunk driver problem.¹ However, evidence of a growing number of DWI arrests among females and incremental increases among female drivers testing positive for alcohol in fatal crashes in some jurisdictions in the United States suggest that women are an important part of the problem that is

worthy of our attention and concern. Moreover, available research reveals that female DWI offenders may possess some different characteristics and have different treatment needs. As such, there is a need for greater understanding of this

phenomenon and more defined approaches to prevention, detection, sentencing, supervision, and treatment of this population.



(Continued on page 6)