

## 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

The Minnesota DEC Program is in its 15th year in 2006. The 165 DREs assigned to keeping Minnesota's roads safe completed 530 evaluations of impaired drivers in 2006. The dedication and devotion of these DREs no doubt saved many lives.

The commitment to successful arrest and prosecution of impaired drivers resulted in a lab verified accuracy of 85.5% for all drug categories (61.9% for depressants, 80.35% for stimulants, 50% for Dissociative Anesthetics, 56.16% for narcotic analgesics, 25.0% for inhalants, and 81.62% for cannabis). Of the drivers arrested and evaluated for drug impaired driving, 31.51% were poly drug users (alcohol not included).

The publication of the Snare the Drug Impaired Newsletter also helps to promote impaired driving issues . This quarterly newsletter addresses issues of DWI, drug impaired driving, and traffic safety topics. Each issue of the newsletter is sent to over 1000 individuals. Anyone interested in receiving a copy can contact Sgt. Don Marose at [don.marose@state.mn.us](mailto:don.marose@state.mn.us).

The Minnesota State Patrol Troopers' Association DRE website continues to be one of the most popular links on the web. The site gets hundreds of hit each month. The site has been a popular vehicle for promoting the DRE Program and answering questions about DWI enforcement and training. The site was created and is maintained by the statewide coordinator and the Troopers' Association webmaster. The website is not devoted to only State Patrol DRE activity, but contains information for all DREs, all law enforcement officers, and the general public. The site can be viewed at [www.mspta.com/dre](http://www.mspta.com/dre).

The ranks of DRE officers grew with the 15th DRE School. The school was held in White Bear Lake in April. The class consisted of 22 officers from 15 agencies in Minnesota. It was the first steps into the DRE program for 8 of these Departments.

The Minnesota DRE Program established new training standards in 2003. These standards have continued into 2006. This was a new and progressive approach to recertification. In order to achieve the required 'two evaluations witnessed by a certified instructor', all of Minnesota's DREs were required to conduct 'live' recertifications on impaired subjects. Those DREs that were unable to complete the recertification evaluations on their own came to the Twin Cities for one of three recertification sessions. These recertification sessions were run much the same way as initial certification training. DRE officers found impaired subjects and returned them to the training site where instructors were waiting to assist them with their evaluation. The DREs offered up numerous positive comments on the recertification training and it served as a great venue for answering questions and disseminating new information.

In order to promote the importance of DREs, the Minnesota DRE Program has established a promotion booth that has appeared at a number of conferences throughout Minnesota. The booth has proved to be one of the most popular attractions and has achieved its goal of spreading the word about DREs in Minnesota.