Dear \_\_\_\_\_ :

As you know, the holiday season is when the public is at greatest risk of being injured or killed by alcohol-impaired drivers. This is why law-enforcement agencies across the state step up their efforts to enforce the law and especially, to publicize enhanced enforcement so that the public will take steps to avoid impairment or at least avoid driving while intoxicated.

Alcohol licensees and their staff have an important role to play as well, and that is why, this year, we are also making a special effort to eliminate over-service of alcohol in our city’s bars and restaurants.

You already know that it’s against the law to serve anyone who is visibly intoxicated. Sadly, this law is not commonly followed by bartenders and wait staff, and that may be due to limited enforcement of serving laws. Many, but not all, businesses are serving responsibly, so **we are planning to give extra attention this year to enforcing laws against serving customers who are already intoxicated**.

We will be entering bars and restaurants in civilian clothes in order to observe servers’ behavior. We expect that in most cases, staff will be serving in a professional manner and no violations will be seen. If, however, we observe an obviously intoxicated person being served an alcoholic beverage, we will cite both the server and the licensee. Please be sure to notify all your staff so that they will be aware of the law and our plan to enforce it.

We know that many owners, managers, and staff share our concern for protecting their customers and the public at large, and we appreciate the work you already do to keep the streets safe. Please help us again by spreading the word to others in the hospitality industry. Together, we can make this the safest holiday season we’ve ever had.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Police
City of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_