



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Seneca County STOP Committee held its annual awards banquet at the Gould Hotel on 02-20-2014. The awards banquet is to recognize the efforts of police, prosecutors and the probation department for work they performed during 2013. Seneca County Undersheriff and STOP-DWI Coordinator Gary Sullivan recognized the following officers for leading their departments in DWI related arrests:

Deputy Jason Lanphear and Sergeant Rick Reed ☐ Seneca County Sheriff's Office
Patrolman James Chechak ☐ Waterloo Police Department
Patrolman Daniel Jacobsen ☐ Seneca Falls Police Department
Officer J.R. Stekl ☐ NYS Park Police
Trooper J.J. Grizzanti ☐ New York State Police
Chief Leon Anderson ☐ Interlaken Police Department

Sullivan reported that police in Seneca County made 183 DWI related arrests in 2013, as compared to 179 arrests in 2012. Sullivan also recognized Seneca County District Attorney Barry Porsch and his office for once again being ranked in the top five prosecutor's office in the State of New York for DWI related convictions. Not only are the police arresting DWI offenders, but, the District Attorney's Office ensures offenders are paying the price with their firm stance and winning convictions

STOP-DWI Coordinator Sullivan also reported that during 2013, the One Second Everything Changes exhibit was set up at the County Fair and area High Schools, and a mock DWI crash was conducted at South Seneca High School for graduating seniors. Sullivan also credited the Seneca County Probation Department for supervising DWI offenders and monitoring over 125 current ignition interlock cases. Over 130 offenders attended one of four Victim Impact Panels held during 2013 in which offenders are brought face to face with victims of DWI accidents.

The message is simple ☐if you drink and drive in Seneca County, we will see you before you see us. Our multifaceted approach; police, prosecutors and probation are all working together to get drunk drivers off our roads. We have been awarded a special grant from the Governors Traffic Safety Committee for 2014 which allows us to conduct even more targeted patrols and sobriety checkpoints throughout the year☐said Sullivan.