Dear District 5 Residents,

As we approach the end of the year, our calendars will be filled with upcoming holidays and celebrations. From Octoberfest and Halloween to Thanksgiving, and all the way to the winter holidays, these are times of joy, gratitude, and gathering with our loved ones. While festivities fill the air, it's essential to remember the responsibility we all share in keeping our community safe.

In that spirit, I want to highlight a crucial matter that often becomes the center of attention during times of celebration: sober driving. Every year, too many lives are lost or forever changed due to driving under the influence. These tragedies are entirely preventable. As we head into this festive season, I urge each of you to make responsible choices when it comes to consuming alcohol or other substances that impair your ability to drive.

There are so many alternatives to getting behind the wheel after celebrating. Whether you have a designated driver amongst your friends or family or use services like Uber and Lyft. The options are numerous, affordable, and accessible. We are fortunate to live in a time where a safe ride home is just a tap away on our smart devices.

By choosing to drive sober or arranging for alternative transportation, you're not just making a responsible decision for yourself, but also contributing to the safety and well-being of everyone else. Let's each do our part to ensure that the upcoming holidays are remembered for joyful celebrations rather than a time of regret.

As always, my office is here to serve you. If you have questions, concerns, or ideas on how we can make District 5 even better, please don't hesitate to reach out.

You can contact us at 951-955-1050 or district5@rivco.org

Stay safe.

Yxstian Gutierrez County Supervisor, District 5