DVI van a scientific laboratory

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Friday night started out slower than usual for the City Police DVI task force. Only one person had been arrested for DVI by 10 p.m.

It was shortly after midnight when Cpl. Edney Cody checked on his flashing lights on a lonely stretch of Plank Road ready to receive its first customer.

Cedadal adjusted the video camera in the back of his van. He watched other control switches and turned on a bright spotlight that illuminated the van as a female driver with a short, wild hairdo and a woman with red hair and glasses eyes entered, followed by a policeman.

After hearing his rights, the woman was asked to perform a series of simple tasks.

Testing

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He could not, however, recite the alphabet.

"It's so hard it doesn't make sense for me to even try," he said sarcastically.

The man said he'd had only two beers, but he registered .21 grams percent, more than enough to be considered intoxicated.

"Time times out of 10, they all say they only had two beers," Cedadal said with a smile.

Cedadal said one of the hardest parts of his job is having to testify in court at 8 a.m. after cruising for DVI's until 4 a.m. Another is answering accident calls, he said.

"I've seen so many accidents where it kills other people and it doesn't even hurt the drunk," Cedadal said. "Then you find out that it's his third or fourth DVI and you ask yourself, what's wrong?"

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We used to film them outside. But an attorney would say, "You've got him standing in the grass, or on gravel, or on a hill."

"I want you to walk in a straight line, heel to toe, and then turn around and walk back," the officer said.

The woman walked unsteadily, managed to make a shakey turn, and walked back.

She was asked to balance on one foot, then to close her eyes and touch her nose with the index fingers of both hands.

Three quarters were placed on the floor and she was asked to pick them up while standing on one feet.

She was asked to recite the letters of the alphabet.

Then she was given a breath test on the Intoxilizer, a breath-alcohol testing device, and registered .21 grams percent, only one point from the .10

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