



CITY OF  
**FORT LAUDERDALE**  
**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
PRESS RELEASE

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**ZERO TOLERANCE**  
**MEMORIAL WEEKEND**

**UPDATE 2: 05.27.14**

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department began to notice an increase in visitors arriving on the barrier island on Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at approximately 2:30 P.M. These individuals quickly formed large unruly crowds. Originally, the crowds gathered on the basketball courts located in the Fort Lauderdale Beach Park. That park is located at 1100 Seabreeze Boulevard in the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Fort Lauderdale Police personnel, to include mounted patrol, field force and tactical bike team officers, responded to the area to disperse the crowds and return the park to an orderly and safe environment. The crowd then migrated northbound towards the area of 17 South State Road A1A and westbound on East Las Olas Boulevard.

Personnel from the Broward Sheriff's Office were requested to assist and several of their field force teams responded to support our efforts.

The main corridors to the barrier island, Southeast 17<sup>th</sup> Street, East Las Olas Boulevard and East Sunrise Boulevard were closed to all eastbound traffic while the above operations were in place. Those closures lasted approximately one hour.

Throughout the holiday weekend the Fort Lauderdale Police Department handled over (480) calls for service on the barrier island and made approximately (42) arrests.

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department thanks our residents, visitors and businesses for their patience and continuous support.

**UPDATE 1: 05.24.14**

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department thanks the public for attending this year's Annual Great American Beach Party. Although there were multiple arrests, it was still a successful family event and thousands of individuals enjoyed themselves.

Individuals who were arrested were charged with either narcotics offenses or disorderly conduct.

Tomorrow and throughout the holiday weekend, beach goers can expect to see the same increased presence of police personnel. Those personnel will include; public safety aides, uniform officers, bicycle officers, undercover detectives, narcotics detection K-9 officers, motor officers, and officers assigned to the mounted unit.

Officers will continue a zero tolerance approach regarding disturbances, physical altercations, narcotics violations and other violations of the law.

There is absolutely **no** alcohol permitted on the beach. Anyone who purchases an open alcoholic beverage from a licensed establishment must consume that beverage within the business where it was purchased. Alcohol violations will continue to be strictly enforced.

**ORIGINAL: 05.22.14**

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department has made preparations to ensure a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day weekend. Those preparations will include an increase in police personnel to maintain a safe and orderly environment for anyone visiting our beautiful city or attending the Annual Great American Beach Party.

The Annual Great American Beach Party will take place on Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 A.M. until 8:30 P.M. For more information on this event and the related road closures please visit: <http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/GABP/TrafficAdvisoryFlier.pdf>.

Beginning Friday May 23<sup>th</sup>, visitors to the beach will notice a significant increase in police presence. The officers will be taking a zero tolerance approach regarding disturbances, physical altercations and other violations of the law.

The public is reminded of a few points of interest;

**TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT:**

Barricades will restrict vehicular access in residential areas to “Local Traffic Only” (residents may be asked to produce proof of residency).

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department, in conjunction with the Broward Sheriff’s Office DUI Task Force, will be saturating the main corridors to and from the barrier island throughout the holiday weekend. Officers assigned to the surrounding neighborhoods will also be increasing their routine patrols and traffic enforcement.

**ALCOHOL RESTRICTIONS:**

The public is reminded that possession of an open alcoholic beverage on the beach and leaving a licensed establishment with an open alcoholic beverage are strictly prohibited.

Additionally, any violation of the following ordinances may result in a physical arrest or the issuance of a Notice-to-Appear before a judge:

- Possession/serve/give an alcoholic beverage to a person under 21
- Possessing or displaying fraudulent identification card
- Possessing an open container of alcohol within a public place which is not an enclosed structure
- Consuming alcohol in an establishment for off-premise consumption only

**The only exception to the above alcohol restrictions will be on Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup> during the scheduled hours of Great American Beach Party (10:00 A.M. to 8:30 P.M.). Event attendees, of legal age, are permitted to possess and consume alcoholic beverages (which are purchased on site, from a licensed event vendor) within the established event perimeters. Those perimeters are: along State Road A1A, between**

**Castillo Street and east Las Olas Boulevard, and between the sidewalk located on the west side of State Road A1A and the shoreline (see map).**



**PUBLIC DISRUPTION / DISORDERLY CONDUCT:**

Additionally, the public is reminded that any violation of the following ordinances may also result in a physical arrest or the issuance of a Notice-to-Appear before a judge:

- Refusing to leave or returning to an establishment after being warned
- Causing a public disturbance while intoxicated
- Engaging in physical fighting or in violent, threatening behavior

Through public information and a conscious effort by all, the Police Department anticipates a safe Memorial Day Weekend for those who will be visiting or reside within our city.

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