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**SHERIFF LOU VALLARIO
GARFIELD COUNTY, COLORADO**

Joint Media Release: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IMPORTANT: Please direct any media requests to the contacts above. Do not contact the Garfield County Emergency Communications Center or Patrol staff for media requests.

Underage drinking party on four mile road broken up by Forest Service Law Enforcement and Garfield County Sheriff's Deputies

GLENWOOD SPS., Colo. – Aug. 6, 2014 – Saturday night August 2 at 11:30 pm Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer's on routine patrol when they discovered a large party off of Forest Service Road 300. They requested Garfield County Sheriff Department back-up before proceeding to contact the partiers as there were approximately 20 to 25 vehicles parked alongside the road.

When Garfield County Sheriff's Deputies arrived the partiers were contacted by law enforcement at which time most of those present ran into the woods leaving only a few people behind at a large bonfire around which was trash, beer and liquor bottles and some 50 pallets used for the bonfire.

After searching through the forest approximately 20 young people were escorted back to the party area resulting in 17 minor in possession of alcohol tickets, one possession of marijuana ticket and one arrest by the Garfield County deputies for an outstanding warrant.

One individual was transported to Valley View Hospital due to severe intoxication. All law enforcement officers left the scene at approximately 4:00 am. The kids who were ticketed were told to clean up the area and did so by the following afternoon.

There are many reasons for these type patrols. Our number one priority is the safety of the public. Another reason is to stop the problems these parties leave in their wake. Oftentimes natural resources are destroyed the national forest ends up being trashed from discarding large amounts of litter.

No further information will be released

The mission of the Garfield County Sheriff's Office is to provide solutions for the people by utilizing and employing strong morals, good character, untarnished integrity, technical knowledge and fiscal responsibility through professional, ethical and equitable conduct.

The vision of the White River National Forest: We are a 21st century organization, leading the nation in innovative landscape conservation, connecting citizens to the land through world-class recreation, restoring and enhancing resilient ecosystems, and contributing to sustainable economies. We tell our story and take care of each other as we continue our legacy of meeting incredible challenges with passion, creativity and collaboration.

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