



TEMPLE TERRACE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CLICK IT OR TICKET: ENFORCING THE LAW, SAVING LIVES

(TEMPLE TERRACE, FL – 5/15/15) – What is the single most-effective way to avoid being killed in a vehicle crash? Buckle up!

Would you ride a roller coaster without the harness down? Would you skydive without a parachute? When you drive or ride in a motor vehicle without a seat belt, you are taking a big risk. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, there were 9,580 unbelted vehicle occupants killed in crashes on our nation's roads in 2013.

From May 18 to 31, the Temple Terrace Police Department will join NHTSA and law enforcement agencies nationwide for the 2015 "Click It or Ticket" enforcement mobilization. Officers will be out in full force, cracking down on seat belt violations and issuing citations to anyone caught traveling without a buckled seat belt, or transporting unrestrained children. Police are determined to get the message across: Seat belts save lives.

From 2008 to 2012, seat belts saved nearly 63,000 lives. And an additional 3,031 lives could have been saved in 2012 if all unrestrained occupants involved in fatal crashes had worn their seat belts, according to the NHTSA.

The phrase "day and night" is an important part of the "Click It or Ticket" message to motorists – and for good reason. In 2013, about 59 percent of passenger vehicle occupants killed during the overnight hours of 6 p.m. to 5:59 a.m. were not wearing seat belts. More people are being killed in nighttime crashes than ever before, police say, and officers are going to be targeting nighttime seat belt violators as a result.

The next time you head out on the road, make sure that everyone in your vehicle is buckled up. Don't do it just to avoid a ticket; do it so you'll arrive at your destination safely. For more information on the "Click It or Ticket" mobilization, visit www.nhtsa.gov/ciot.