



TEMPLE TERRACE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

11250 North 56th Street
Temple Terrace, Florida 33617
813.506-6500
813.506-6499 FAX
www.templeterrace.com

Nov. 19, 2012

MEDIA CONTACT:

Michael Dunn, City of Temple Terrace PIO @ (813) 506-6406

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BUCKLE UP FOR A SAFE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

TEMPLE TERRACE, FL. – (11/19/12) - The Thanksgiving holiday period is one of the busiest travel times of the year. To help keep families safe on our roadways during the holidays, the Temple Terrace Police Department will be teaming up with law-enforcement agencies across the state to strongly enforce Florida seat-belt laws.

During the 2010 Thanksgiving holiday period (6 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 24 to 5:59 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 29) 337 passenger vehicle occupants were killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes nationwide, and a staggering 55 percent of those killed were not wearing seat belts at the time of the fatal crash.

“Too many people are not getting the message, so we’ll be out in force during this long travel weekend with a simple goal - to strictly enforce the law in order to save more lives,” said Capt. Mike Pridemore of the Temple Terrace Police Department. “It’s a simple step that each of us can take to protect ourselves and our loved ones, but it’s often forgotten during the hustle and bustle of holiday travel.”

In 2010, Pridemore noted, 61 percent of the 10,647 passenger vehicle occupants who were killed nationally in motor vehicle traffic crashes during overnight hours (6 p.m. to 5:59 a.m.) were not wearing their seat belts at the time of the fatal crash, compared to 42 percent during the daytime hours. During the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, he said, nighttime fatalities involving unbelted passengers rose to 64 percent.

“Throughout the year, but especially during busy travel times like Thanksgiving, we will be cracking down on those who don’t buckle up,” Pridemore said. “Click it, or ticket.”

###