

## NEWS RELEASE

Chad Kasmar Chief of Police

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## GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY BUCKLE UP ARIZONA...IT'S THE LAW! ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGN

In an effort to save more lives on Arizona's roadways this month, the Governor's Office of Highway Safety is partnering with the Tucson Police Department and other local law enforcement agencies to enforce Arizona's seat belt and child safety seat laws.

Arizona presently conducts enforcement under a secondary seat belt law and a primary child safety seat law. The enforcement campaign is based upon high visibility traffic enforcement with a "zero-tolerance" approach towards seat belts and child safety seat usage.

As part of the national "Click It or Ticket" seat belt enforcement campaign, law enforcement agencies across the state will be stepping up traffic enforcement patrols and increasing other enforcement efforts to drive home the message: Buckle Up Arizona...It's the Law!

Despite widespread efforts to educate drivers about the importance of wearing seat belts, motor vehicle collisions continue to be the leading cause of death and serious injuries to the citizens of our state. The enforcement mobilization will run from May 23, 2022, through June 5, 2022.

Regular seat belt use is the single most effective way to protect people and reduce fatalities in motor vehicle crashes. When worn correctly, seat belts have proven to reduce serious crash-related injuries and deaths by about 50%. The proper and consistent use of child safety seats has reduced the risk of fatal injury by 71% for infants (younger than one-year-old) and by 54% for toddlers (1 to 4 years old) in passenger cars. Properly installed booster seats reduce the risk of serious injury by 45% among children ages 4 to 8. See one of our many car seat events throughout the year for proper car seat installation by one of our Certified Car Seat Technicians. Dates are advertised on the Safe Kids Pima County website.

Funding was provided by the Governor's Office of Highway Safety.

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