



NEWS RELEASE

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Venturans urged to always wear their seat belt *"Click it or Ticket" Seat Belt Safety Campaign runs through June 5*

Ventura, Calif. — During the Memorial Day weekend, the Ventura Police Department reminds community members to buckle up and keep children in child safety seats when headed on a trip or when visiting friends or family.

This year's Click it or Ticket campaign is from May 23 - June 5. During this time, the Ventura Police Department will have additional officers on patrol actively looking for drivers and passengers who are not wearing seat belt. This includes vehicles where children are not secured in proper child safety seats.

"Wearing a seat belt should be an automatic for all drivers and passengers," said Commander Matt Cain. "It's the safe thing to do, especially when it comes to keeping our families safe."

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, or NHTSA, over 10,800 people killed in crashes throughout the country in 2020 were not wearing seat belts. In California, 756 people killed in crashes in 2020 were not wearing seat belts, or nearly 20 percent of all traffic deaths in the state.

California law requires a child to be secured in a safety or booster seat until they are eight years old or 4 feet, 9 inches tall. Children under the age of 2 must ride in a rear-facing seat unless the child weighs at least 40 pounds or is at least 40 inches tall.

California has a primary seat belt law, which allows law enforcement officers to ticket someone for not wearing a seat belt without committing another traffic violation.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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