



SHERIFF

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Media Release

Deputies Conducting Enhanced Seat Belt Patrols in May

May 16, 2017 – The Washington County Sheriff's Office, in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), will be conducting enhanced patrols in May as part of the two-week statewide "Seat Belt Blitz" campaign.

Between the dates of May 14 and May 27, extra deputies will be on the roadways looking for vehicle occupants not wearing, or improperly using seat belts. They will also be checking for proper child safety seat use.

This campaign corresponds with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) annual "Click It or Ticket" campaign, which runs between May 22 and June 4. According to the NHTSA, motor vehicle crashes are still the leading cause of death or disability in children from two to fourteen years of age. This number is due in large part to non-use, or improper use of seat belts and child safety seats. Proper seat belt and child restraint use is the number one way to prevent injury or death if you or your children are involved in a crash.

For safety belt systems, proper use means the lap belt must be placed low across the hips and the shoulder belt should cross the center of the chest over the collar bone. Belts should be free of slack and have no twists or knots. The shoulder belt should NOT be placed under the arm or behind the back; this can cause serious internal injuries or ejection in a crash.

Information regarding proper child safety seat use and local car seat clinics can be found at www.oregonimpact.org/

The Sheriff's Office Traffic Safety Unit is dedicated to promoting and improving traffic safety through education, analysis, and enforcement. Learn more about the team: www.co.washington.or.us/sheriff/fightingcrime/patrols/traffic-safety-unit.cfm