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## **This Thanksgiving, Buckle Up and Designate a Sober Driver**

**Franklin Park, IL** – With one of the busiest travel times of the year just around the corner, the Franklin Park Police Department is reminding motorists to buckle up and drive sober to ensure that everyone arrives safely.

“On regular days and holidays alike, law enforcement too often see the results of driving impaired and not wearing a seat belt,” said Director Michael Witz. “They are both tragic and preventable. Whether you’re driving cross-country or across the street, please remember to wear your seat belt and make a plan for a sober ride home.”

Throughout the year, many traffic deaths and injuries could be prevented with the click of a seat belt or the choice to designate a sober driver. More than 30% of motor vehicle crash fatalities in Illinois involve an alcohol-impaired driver, and data shows drug-involved driving is on the rise.

To combat these trends, Franklin Park PD is joining the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Illinois State Police, and local law enforcement agencies in a statewide effort to save lives by stepping up enforcement of seat belt and impaired driving laws.

Motorists will see this increase in safety patrols from November 20, over the holiday weekend, and through the early morning hours of November 30.

The Thanksgiving enforcement effort is made possible by federal traffic safety funds administered by IDOT as part of the statewide *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* and *Click It or Ticket* campaigns.

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