

Press Release- Law Enforcement

2014 Memorial Day Click It or Ticket Mobilization



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 5, 2014
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Franklin Park Police Department Enforces Click It or Ticket-Front and Back Seat

[*Franklin Park, Illinois*] – If you think you can travel in Illinois over Memorial Day without wearing your seat belt- think again. The 2014 Illinois Click It or Ticket campaign kicks off May 9.

The Franklin Park Police Department is joining the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), the Illinois State Police (ISP) and hundreds of local law enforcement agencies across the state to save more lives by strongly enforcing seat belt laws.

In Illinois, as of January 1, 2012, all drivers and passengers must wear seat belts in all seating positions in the car, not just the front seat. During statewide observational surveys conducted by IDOT in 2013, the overall usage rate for rear seat occupants was 77.4 percent versus 93.7 percent for drivers and front seat passengers.

“Memorial Day weekend kicks off the busy summer driving season, and we want to ensure that everyone arrives at their destination safe and sound,” said Cmdr. Robert Wright. “Our officers are prepared to ticket anyone, front or back seat, who is not wearing a seat belt.”

In 2012, back seat passengers in Illinois accounted for 46 fatalities and over 5,000 injuries. Out of those 46 fatalities, 30 of them were not wearing their seat belt.

Provisional numbers show that during the 2013 Memorial Day weekend there were three fatalities and almost 600 injuries on Illinois roadways. Two of those fatalities were alcohol-related. Remember – wearing your seat belt is your best defense against an impaired driver. While this year’s Click It or Ticket enforcement campaign runs from May 9 through May 26, officers are out enforcing seat belt laws year-round. Buckle up and encourage your loved ones to do the same. You will save the cost of a ticket and may save a life.

For more information about the Click It or Ticket campaign, please visit www.buckleupillinois.org.