



## **Click It or Ticket 2008 Quick Facts: Enforce Belt Laws, Save Lives, Make a Difference**

Gunfire. Gangs. Stolen vehicles. Armed robbery. As a law enforcement officer, you see it all — and then some. One thing is certain, as the annual *Click It or Ticket* national campaign rolls around this May, you are sure to have more than enough to do in one shift. So where does seat belt enforcement fit in?

### **Consider this ...**

- **The scope of the problem** — 42,642 people were killed on our Nation's highways in 2006; for young people ages 2 through 34, motor vehicle crashes are currently **the** leading cause of death, far outpacing crime and disease-related causes.
- **Frequency of unbelted deaths as compared to homicide** — In 2006, approximately 17,000 homicides were reported in the United States, while in the same year, nearly 16,000 passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes were not buckled up.
- **An effective solution** — Worn correctly, seat belts reduce the risk of fatal injury by 45 percent for front-seat passenger car occupants and by 60 percent for pickup truck, SUV, and minivan occupants.
- **Thousands can be saved** — An estimated 15,383 lives were saved by seat belt use in 2006; during the five-year period from 2002 through 2006, seat belts are estimated to have saved the lives of 76,000 people.
- **History shows enforcement works** — High-visibility enforcement of seat belt laws, such as the annual *Click It or Ticket* mobilization, has been highly effective at raising the seat belt usage rate: the national usage rate increased from 58 percent in 1994 to 82 percent in 2007.
- **Too many still haven't gotten the message** — Nearly one-fifth (18%) of motor vehicle occupants still do not buckle up: nighttime drivers, young males, and teens are among those least likely to wear seat belts, which greatly increases the risk of death for these groups.

### **What you can do ...**

- **Renew your support** — With so many lives at stake, re-commit now to enforcing belt laws and converting the high-risk 18 percent who still don't take these laws seriously.
- **Enforce belt laws day AND night** — In 2006, less than **half** (46%) of the passenger vehicle occupants killed during the day were unrestrained by seat belts — while almost **two-thirds** (64%) of the passenger vehicle occupants killed during the night were unrestrained by seat belts.
- **Take action this May** — Join thousands of your fellow officers across the country who will again be out on the streets enforcing belt laws during the annual *Click It or Ticket* national mobilization this May 19 – June 1, 2008.

**The bottom line? We need you to make the 2008 *Click It or Ticket* campaign a success.**

With paid advertisements and earned media coverage, the public knows about the planned mobilization. But all the hoopla amounts to nothing without strong belt law enforcement by officers like **YOU**.

**Find out more: Visit the *Click It or Ticket*  
campaign headquarters Web site at [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov).**