

News Release

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TEXAS LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS STEP UP EFFORTS TO TICKET DRIVERS FOR SEAT BELT VIOLATIONS

With Memorial Day weekend and the summer vacation season approaching, Texas law enforcement officers are increasing efforts to issue tickets to drivers and passengers who are not wearing seat belts. The “Click It or Ticket” initiative runs May 23, 2016, through June 5, 2016.

Last year in Texas, 2,370 motor vehicle crashes involving unrestrained occupants resulted in 889 fatalities and 1,854 serious injuries. Wearing a seat belt helps keep occupants from being ejected in a crash and increases the chances of surviving by 45 percent. In pickup trucks, that number jumps to 60 percent, as those vehicles are twice as likely as cars to roll over in a crash.

Texas law requires drivers and all passengers — including those in the back seat — to wear a seat belt or else risk a ticket, fines and court costs up to \$200 each. Children younger than 8 years old must be in a child safety seat or booster seat unless they are taller than 4 feet 9 inches. Fines issued to drivers for unrestrained children in their vehicle can be as high as \$250 plus court costs.

To learn more about “Click It or Ticket,” visit texasclickitorticket.com.