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PRESS RELEASE

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Buckle Up. It Could Save Your Life. *Lake in the Hills Police Department Kicks Off Seat Belt Campaign*

Lake in the Hills, IL – Think you can take a ride without your seat belt? Think again: In nearly every state and the District of Columbia, seat belt use is required by law—and for good reason. According the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), in 2017 alone seat belts saved an estimated 14,955 lives. If all passenger vehicle occupants ages five and older had worn their seat belts that same year, it’s estimated an additional 2,549 lives could have been saved. When you’re not wearing your seat belt, you’re risking serious injury or death. To help combat this safety issue, from Sept. 18-30, 2020, officers will be inspecting seat belt compliance so be sure to buckle up – it’s your best defense in case of a crash.

This proactive measure coincides with Child Passenger Safety Week from September 20-26, 2020, a campaign dedicated to helping parents and caregivers make sure their children ride as safely as possible — every trip, every time. According to NHTSA, motor vehicle crashes are a leading killer of children and nearly half of car seats are misused (46%). Seat belts, car seats and booster seat can make a life-saving difference.

The Police Department has certified car seat technicians available to help. After an inspection of the child car seat, the technician will educate the parent or caregiver in safe installation procedures of the seat through hands-on experience to ensure correct installation and child safety. Car seat inspections are available by appointment to Lake in the Hills residents only. For more information about this free service offered year-round visit: <https://www.lith.org/government/departments/police/child-safety-seat-inspection>

Remember to buckle your seat belt every trip, every time. And ensure that each and every passenger – child and adult – is properly restrained, too. Doing so could save a life. For more information about NHTSA’s *Click It or Ticket* campaign visit: <https://one.nhtsa.gov/nhtsa/ciot/index.html>

Any criminal or traffic complaint(s) that have been filed against any individual(s) named herein are only an accusation. All defendant(s) are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. All inquiries regarding this press release are to be directed to the Communications Coordinator at 847-658-5676 unless otherwise noted.