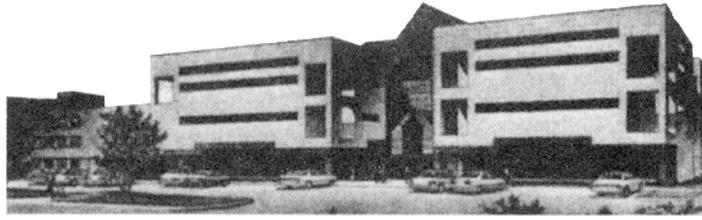




OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF



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ERIC SEVERSON, *Sheriff*

2016 *CLICK IT OR TICKET* “Border to Border”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Waukesha County - As motorists take to the roads this Memorial Day holiday, Waukesha County Sheriff's Department are urging everyone to buckle up. Beginning March 5, 2016, law enforcement officials were out in full force, taking part in the 2016 national *Click It or Ticket* seat belt enforcement mobilization and cracking down on motorists who are not belted.

“As we kick-off the busy summer driving season, it is critical that everyone buckles up every time they go out, day and night – no excuses,” said Sheriff Eric Severson. “Our deputies are prepared to ticket anyone who is not wearing their seat belt, including drivers that have neglected to properly buckle their children. – *Click It or Ticket.*”

At 6:00 p.m. on May 23, Waukesha County Sheriff's Department will join law enforcement agencies across the Eastern half of the United States in mobilizing the *Click It or Ticket* (CIOT) “Border to Border” Operation. Law enforcement agencies will join forces to provide increased seat belt enforcement at State borders, sending a zero tolerance message to the public: driving or riding unbuckled will result in a ticket, no matter what State.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 9,580 passenger vehicle occupants killed in 2013 were not wearing their seat belts at the time of the crash. And unbelted fatalities are more prevalent at night than during the daytime: 59 percent of those killed in 2013 during the overnight hours of 6 p.m. to 5:59 a.m. unbelted at the time of the crash.

“Seat belts save thousands of lives every year, but far too many motorists are still not buckling up, especially at night when the risk of getting in a crash is even greater,” said Waukesha County Sheriff's Lieutenant Brian Ripplinger. “We want to make this the safest summer possible. Buckling up is not optional; it's the difference between life and death in a crash. That's why we're out here enforcing the law. *Click it or Ticket*, every time, day or night.”

From 2008 to 2012, seat belts have saved nearly 63,000 lives nationwide. So while this year's *Click It or Ticket* enforcement mobilization runs from May 18-31, officers will continue to save lives by enforcing seat belt laws year-round.

For more on the national *Click It or Ticket* mobilization, please visit www.nhtsa.gov.

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