

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF SARPY COUNTY

“Honored to Serve”



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Sarpy County Sheriff

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PRESS RELEASE

Click It or Ticket Campaign Reminds Drivers: Buckle Up May 24 - June 6, and Every Day

Papillion, Nebraska — The Sarpy County Sheriff's Office is reminding drivers about the lifesaving benefits of wearing a seat belt this spring, during the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) national *Click It or Ticket* high-visibility enforcement effort. The national seat belt campaign, which coincides with the Memorial Day holiday, runs from May 24 to June 6, 2021.

"We want the act of buckling up to become automatic to all drivers and passengers," said Chief Deputy Greg London. "It's not just a safe thing to do – it's the law. During the *Click It or Ticket* campaign, we'll be working with our fellow law enforcement officers across local and state lines to ensure the message gets out to drivers and passengers. In Nebraska, we know that 3 out of 10 occupants do not buckle up each and every trip. Buckling up is the simplest thing you can do to limit injury or save your life during a crash. We see the results of not wearing a seat belt all the time. We see the loss of life. So often, it could have been prevented."

For this year's *Click It or Ticket* seat belt mobilization effort, the Sarpy County Sheriff's Office is also participating in the kickoff event, *Border to Border* (B2B), a one-day, 4-hour national seat belt awareness event on May 24. The B2B program aims to increase law enforcement participation by coordinating highly visible seat belt enforcement and providing seat belt fact sheets for drivers at heavily traveled, highly visible state border checkpoints.

According to the NDOT Highway Safety Office, in 2020, there were 132 (**78%**) unbuckled passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes in Nebraska. In comparison with other states, Nebraska has the 4th worst observed seat belt usage in the United States. Participating law enforcement agencies will be taking a no-excuses approach to seat belt law enforcement, writing citations day and night. In Nebraska, the maximum penalty for a seat belt violation is \$25.00.

The Sarpy County Sheriff's Office is one of the largest Sheriff's Offices in Nebraska, serving the fastest growing county in the state. Its team of dedicated law enforcement officers and civilian staff are **honored to serve** its citizens and community.

If you have any questions, contact Sgt. Kyle Percifield at 402-593-1548 or email kpercifield@sarpy.com.

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