

Monterey Park PD: Californians Encouraged to Buckle Up on Every Trip

The "Click it or Ticket" seat belt enforcement campaign is November 16-29

Monterey Park, Calif. - November 12, 2020 - Throughout the month of November, the Monterey Park Police Department is joining agencies across the country promoting the importance of wearing a seat belt in the car and keeping children safe by making sure they are properly restrained.

This year's Click it or Ticket seat belt enforcement campaign is from November 16-29, 2020. During this time, the Monterey Park Police Department will have additional officers on patrol looking for drivers and passengers who are not wearing a seat belt. This includes drivers who do not properly secure children in child safety seats.



While the seat belt use rate in California was 96% last year, there has been a noted drop in seat belt use by back seat passengers. A recent <u>report</u> (external link) by the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) found only 76% of rear seat passengers were seat belts.

"Wearing a seat belt is your best defense on the road," Monterey Park Police Chief Kelly Gordon said. "It only takes a few seconds and helps keep you and your family safe."

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), seat belts saved nearly 15,000 lives of people ages five and older in 2017.

The fine for a seat belt violation is \$162. California law requires a child be properly secured in a safety seat in the second row of a vehicle, when available, until they are at least 8 years of age. Children under the age of two must ride rear-facing or until they reach 40 pounds or 40 inches in height.



California has a primary seat belt law, which allows law enforcement officers to ticket someone for not wearing a seat belt without committing another traffic violation.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Media Contact

Sergeant Gabriel Escarsega, Monterey Park Police Department gescarsega@montereypark.ca.gov 626-307-1481 www.montereypark.ca.gov

Subscribe to City of Monterey Park news flashes at www.montereypark.ca.gov/notifyme.