



Huntington Beach Police Department

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Press Release

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Californians Encouraged to Buckle Up on Every Trip

Click it or Ticket Seat Belt Enforcement Campaign – May 17th to June 6th, 2021

The Huntington Beach Police Department (HBPD) is joining other agencies nationwide in bringing awareness to the importance of wearing a seat belt in the car and ensuring children are properly secured in safety seats.

This year's *Click it or Ticket* seat belt enforcement campaign is from May 17th to June 6th. During this time, the HBPD will have additional officers 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.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), proper seat belt usage saved nearly 15,000 lives of people ages five and older in 2017. While the seat belt use rate in California was 96% last year, there has been a notable drop in seat belt use by back seat passengers.

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 eight 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. The fine for a seat belt violation is \$162.

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

