



GROVER BEACH POLICE

PRESS RELEASE

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NEWS RELEASE

GROVER BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT TARGETS SEAT BELT VIOLATORS IN THE MONTHS OF MAY AND JUNE DURING "CLICK IT OR TICKET" CAMPAIGN.

Police Chief Jim Copsey is warning vehicle drivers and passengers that officers will be issuing tickets to persons not wearing seat belts from May 15 through June 4, 2006, which includes the upcoming Memorial Day weekend. The special enforcement period is part of the state's "Click it or Ticket" campaign.

While officers will be writing tickets, compliance with the law, saving lives and preventing injuries is the Department's goal. The 961 vehicle occupants killed in California crashes in 2004 had one thing in common: they did not believe it could happen to them!

Chief Copsey noted that the maximum fine for seat belt violations for persons 16 and older is \$87.00 for a first offense with fines increasing for a second offense.

California courts are very serious when children under 16 are not properly secured in a vehicle. If cited, drivers may receive one "point count" on their driving record, with a maximum fine for their first offense, fines increase for a second offense.

The 2005 California Seat Belt Use Survey revealed that 92.5% of vehicle occupants wear seat belts. That leaves 2.7 million people who do not buckle up on California roadways with a strong chance of receiving a seat belt ticket during the three week campaign.

California ranks 7th nationally in seat belt use. The other six states include: Hawaii, 95.3; Washington, 95.2 percent, Nevada, 94.8 percent; Arizona, 94.2 percent; Oregon, 93.3 percent; Michigan, 92.9 percent.

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