



2013 Click It or Ticket

Facts and Talking Points for Law Enforcement:

-Commit to the Click It or Ticket Mobilization! Join the thousands of law enforcement agencies from across the country in stepping up high-visibility enforcement during the 2012 Click It or Ticket national mobilization (May 20-June 2, 2013).

-Enforce Day AND Night. Statistics show night time drivers are less likely to buckle up compared to daytime drivers. In 2012 in Virginia, the total number of unrestrained fatalities was 305 (Source: DMV: The Virginia Highway Safety Office). The highest time period for unbelted fatalities was between 6:00 pm and midnight – 84 deaths (28%), and 77 or 25% of the fatalities occurred in crashes between the hours of Midnight and 6:00 am. Most happen from Thursday-Sunday midnight.

-The biggest crash causers that result in these night time unrestrained fatalities? Speed and DUI, so while seat belts is a secondary law, there are plenty of primary offenses out there!

-Men between the ages of 18-34 remain our biggest risk group. Of the 305 unrestrained fatalities in Virginia during 2012, 95 were between the ages of 18-35 with 77 of those being between the ages of 21-35 years. By contrast, women between the ages of 18-35 accounted for 31 unrestrained fatalities.

-Pick up truck occupants are shown to be less likely to buckle up. BUT regardless of the vehicle, seat belts save lives. In 2011, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) statistics show that 21,253 occupants of passenger cars, trucks, vans and SUV's were killed in motor vehicle crashes nationwide, and 52% were NOT wearing seat belts at the time of the fatal crashes. In Virginia, unbelted fatalities account for 53% of motor vehicle occupant deaths in 2012 (DMV/VAHSO).

-The numbers change, the facts don't. Fifty four percent of the 130,854 passenger vehicle occupants who were killed on our roadways in the U.S. from 2006-2010 were not wearing their seat belts at the time of the fatal crashes. (NHTSA) Wearing a seat belt is the single most effective way to reduce fatalities in a motor vehicle crash.

Facts and Talking Points for Law Enforcement, continued

-Remember the law in Virginia states that you may summons the driver if they are transporting a person under the age of 18 years of age who is not properly secured by and appropriate safety seat or safety belt system (46.2-1095). That's PRIMARY; you need no other reason to stop a vehicle if you believe there is an individual under the age of 18 not properly restrained in the vehicle.

Finally, strong enforcement is the key to success in this Click It or Ticket mobilization. Please lead and join your officers in conducting zero-tolerance seat belt enforcement during the day, and also at night. This mobilization is created to crackdown on violators 24/7, but a strong enforcement effort is urged between the night time hours due to the higher percentages of passenger vehicle occupants not buckling up during the overnight hours.