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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“CLICK IT OR TICKET” CAMPAIGN REMINDS CALIFORNIANS TO ALWAYS BUCKLE UP SEAT BELT SAFETY CAMPAIGN RUNS THROUGH MEMORIAL DAY

SAN FERNANDO, CA – San Fernando Police Department (SFPD) reminds travelers to always buckle up and secure children in the right car seats when visiting friends and family.

This year’s Click It or Ticket campaign runs from May 12, 2025 to June 1, 2025. During this time, the SFPD will have additional officers on patrol actively looking for drivers and passengers who are not wearing a seat belt. This includes vehicles where children are not secured in child safety seats or the right safety seats for their age.

“May is Click It or Ticket Month, and the SFPD takes this enforcement seriously,” SFPD, Commander, CJ Chiasson said. “Seat belts save lives, and we will have zero tolerance for those who choose not to wear them. Buckle up—every trip, every time.”

Nationally, 11,302 people killed in crashes in 2022 were not wearing seat belts. In California, 842 people killed in crashes in 2022 were not wearing seat belts, a decrease of 8.4 percent from 2021.

California law requires all children under two years old to ride in a rear-facing car seat, unless the child is 40 or more pounds or is 40 or more inches tall. Once a child reaches these milestones, all children under the age of eight years are still required to be secured in a car seat or booster seat. Children under the age of eight may not ride in the front seat unless the vehicle is not equipped with a rear, forward-

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facing seat. Children age eight and older, or who are at least four feet nine inches tall, may be secured by a booster seat, but at a minimum must be wearing a properly fitted safety belt.

Parents and caregivers are encouraged to keep children in the proper rear or forward-facing seat as long as possible and use the "Five-Step Test" to determine if their child is big enough to safely use a seat belt without a booster seat.

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

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