



ROCKFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
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POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHET EPPERSON
CHIEF OF POLICE

TRAFFIC RELEASE

DATE & TIME 11/16/11 10:54 AM

Bureau: Field Services Bureau

Authorized Supervisor: Lieutenant Christine Bishop

Phone: 815-987-5835

Incident: Increased Traffic Enforcement In November



MESSAGE

Beginning January 1, 2012, everyone in a vehicle, no matter the age or seating position, will be required to wear a safety belt in Illinois.

The Illinois Department of Transportation's Division of Traffic Safety (IDOT/DTS) has advised that Illinois has a 92.9 percent daytime safety belt usage rate. However, far too many drivers and passengers still do not buckle up. In Illinois, during the Thanksgiving holiday period in 2010, 15 vehicle occupants died in motor vehicle traffic crashes; nine of those deaths involved a drinking driver and over 700 were injured. Data shows late-night hours are when the highest percentage of motorists die in alcohol-involved crashes and the lowest percentage of vehicle occupants are properly restrained.

During the Thanksgiving Holiday Season, the Rockford Police Department will increase its enforcement efforts in the area of safety belt compliance and driving under the influence. The increased enforcement is made possible by a grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation.

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