



## Clinton County Traffic Safety Program

For Immediate release – all news agencies

– From May 23 to June 5, 2016, Clinton County law enforcement personnel will participate in the national *Click It or Ticket* campaign in an effort to save lives through increased seat belt use. This enforcement period comes ahead of the Memorial Day holiday, one of the busiest travel weekends of the year.

According to research conducted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, while 88.5 percent of passenger vehicle occupants buckled up in 2015, almost 50 percent of occupants of fatal crashes nationwide are not restrained. In some states, the rate is as high as 70 percent unrestrained in fatal crashes. This fact gravely highlights the need for increased enforcement and awareness of seat belt use.

In 2014, nearly half of the 21,022 passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes were unrestrained, according to NHTSA. During the nighttime hours of 6 p.m. to 5:59 a.m., that number increased to 57 percent of those killed. Law enforcement agencies will write citations day and night, with a zero-tolerance approach.

Hundreds of thousands of citizens will be traveling this Memorial Day weekend, as well as throughout the summer vacation season. We want to make sure that people are buckling up to keep themselves and their families safe. It is the greatest defense in a vehicle crash.

For more information on the *Click It or Ticket* campaign, please visit [www.nhtsa.gov/ciot](http://www.nhtsa.gov/ciot)

**Please remember to MOVE OVER and give our law enforcement officers, emergency workers, tow and service vehicle operators and other maintenance workers a safe distance.**