

May 19, 2014
For Immediate Release
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Bexar County Constable Pct. 4 Cracking Down on Buckling Up *Click It or Ticket Aims To Boost Seat Belt Use*

The Bexar County Constable Pct. 4 will be aggressively enforcing the national Click It or Ticket seat belt enforcement campaign from May 19 through June 1. The Precinct 4 Constables Office has always and will continue to enforce seat belt violations throughout the year. The campaign relies on heavy enforcement and public education as a means to help Texas achieve the highest seat belt use rate in the nation.

“Memorial Day weekend kicks off summer vacation season, and we are out to enforce these laws to make sure that every person in a vehicle arrives at their destination safe and sound,” said Sgt. Fernando Martinez. “Pct. 4 officers will be on the lookout for those who are not buckled up and for teens and children not riding properly restrained. There will be no warnings, its *Click It or Ticket*.”

Texas has a primary seat belt law which requires that every passenger in the car, including the driver is required to wear a seat belt at all times. If stopped and found to be in violation, Precinct 4 officers will issue citations without warning. Tickets for seat belt violations range from \$160 to \$200 for adults and \$200 to \$240 for children under the age of 16.

According to new data released from the Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), fatalities are up nationwide for the first time in five years. In 2012, 10,335 people who were killed in motor vehicle crashes were not wearing their seat belts. The Administration’s data also details how more traffic vehicle deaths occur at night. In 2012, 61 percent of passenger vehicle occupants killed during the hours of 6 p.m. to 5:59 a.m. were not wearing their seat belts.

“Seat belts clearly save lives. But unfortunately, too many folks still need a tough reminder, so Precinct 4 officers are going to be out in force day and night. They will be buckling down on those who are not buckled up,” Sgt. Martinez said.

Bexar County Precinct 4 Constable Robert Mike Blount wants you to know that wearing your seat belt cost you nothing, but not wearing it will. So unless you want to risk a ticket, or even worse, your life, remember to buckle up at all times while riding in a vehicle.

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