



DEFIANCE COUNTY

 Safe Communities Coalition

**Defiance County General Health District**  
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## **CLICK IT OR TICKET CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY—CITIZENS ARE REMINDED OF TRAFFIC SAFETY**

DEFIANCE, OH—On Thursday May 19<sup>th</sup>, Defiance County Safe Communities Coalition promoted the *Click It or Ticket Campaign* during Coffee with a Cop at AAA in Defiance. *Click It or Ticket*, which includes the busy Memorial Day holiday weekend, has a twofold approach: to combine increased, zero-tolerance enforcement with effective communication to road users on the importance of seat belt use.

During this year's campaign, NHTSA urges law enforcement nationwide to issue seat belt citations to anyone caught in violation of the law—during the day, and at night, when 55% of those killed are unrestrained.

The national seat belt use rate in 2020 was 90.3%. The *Click It or Ticket* campaign is for the remaining 9.7% who still don't buckle up. Thousands of lives could be saved each year if every person was properly restrained on the road.

In addition to encouraging seatbelt usage, Defiance Police Chief Todd Shafer stated law enforcement wants to make downtown Defiance a safer place to promote local businesses. Chief Shafer said "there have been many near misses when pedestrians are crossing at crosswalks, pedestrians have right of way at crosswalks and we should slow down and allow them to cross safely."

Nathan Hoffer of Defiance County Public Health provided an update on Health Department activities including child passenger safety. On May 21<sup>st</sup> the Health Department is partnering with Promedica Defiance to hand out bike helmets and encourage bicycle safety.

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

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