

Press Release- Elwood Police

Free Child Safety Seat Check



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **April 17, 2018**

CONTACT: **Chief Fred Hayes, 815-423-5339, fred.hayes@villageofelwood.com**

Child Safety Seat Systems

Elwood, Illinois – On Friday, May 4, 2018, from 10:00am until 2:00pm the Elwood Police Department will be conducting Child Vehicle Restraint Systems (AKA Child Car Seats) checks for our community members at the Elwood Police Department, 401 E. Mississippi Avenue. **Officer Randy Lightfoot and Officer Jennifer Kickert** are certified as **Child Passenger Safety Technicians** by the National Child Passenger Certification Training Program. Officer Lightfoot and Officer Kickert will be available to install and inspect car seats for free. Most importantly the parents will gain hands on experience on how to properly install the car seat after it is removed. This program is designed to protect your child in the event of a car crash. Unfortunately, if your child's car seat is not installed correctly it could be completely ineffective in any crash, resulting in unnecessary death or injury. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, as many as 50-80% of car seats in use today are improperly installed.



Safety Facts

59%

CASES IN WHICH CHILDREN'S CAR SEATS
ARE USED INCORRECTLY

The Elwood Police Department has specialty trained individuals who are certified by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to properly install a child safety car seat. We can assist and educate parents in properly installing a child restraint system.

Chief Fred Hayes also urges parents to follow NHTSA's car seat recommendations, that parents and caregivers keep children in their restraint types for as long as possible according to manufacturer instructions before moving them to the next step. For maximum safety, a parent or caregiver should have the car seat installation inspected by a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician to ensure their children are in the right seats for their age and size. Children 12 and under should always ride in the back seat.

For more information, visit NHTSA's website with child restraint safety resources <https://www.nhtsa.gov/equipment/car-seats-and-booster-seats> www.nhtsa.gov/everyoneisapedestrian.

Parents or caregivers are encouraged to bring their vehicle's owner manual as well as the car seat manual if you have them.

Remember: In Illinois, children are required to be in a car seat or booster seat until at least age 8 and all children younger than 13 should ride in the back seat.

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