

Press Release- Elwood Police

2018 Click it or Ticket- Post Campaign Results



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Click It or Ticket Campaign Reminds People to Buckle Up or Pay the Price

The Elwood Police Department wrote [97] Seat Belt Citations



Elwood, Illinois—Between May 18 and May 29, the Elwood Police Department participated in the annual *Click It or Ticket* high-visibility seat-belt enforcement campaign, bringing awareness to area residents and writing **97** citations for seat-belt violations in the process. The campaign, which coincided with one of the busiest holiday weekends of the year, sought to stress the importance of seat-belt use through enforcement and community outreach.

“It was a successful campaign, and we believe through our media efforts jointly with our enforcement efforts, we helped save lives and raise awareness not only in our community but our neighboring communities as well,” said Chief Fred Hayes. “We know seat belts save lives in vehicle crashes. Issuing tickets was not our goal, but it was a way to remind people of the importance of such a simple action.”

“It takes the average person 66 days to develop a habit”, Sergeant Hartley added. “We hope that our community members will continue to wear their seatbelts at all times. During the campaign the number one excuse given by motorists was, “I’m just going to work” or “I’m just going home”. Everyone is just going somewhere when unexpected things can happen. The Elwood Police Department would like to challenge those who don’t wear seatbelts consistently to take the 66-day challenge and make it an automatic practice. If not for you, then for your loved ones.

Illinois’ seat-belt use rate is 93.8 percent, but unbelted occupants disproportionately account for over half of those killed in traffic crashes. This *Click It or Ticket* campaign aims to change the behavior of the millions of people who still don’t buckle up. Thousands of lives could be saved each year if every vehicle occupant was properly restrained when traveling on the road.

During the eleven-day mobilization, the Elwood Police Department issued:

• 97 seat belt citations	• 10 speeding citations
• 4 child car seat citations	• 1 drug arrest
• 1 DUI arrest	• 26 other citations
• 2 warrant arrests with one felony warrant	• 16 warning tickets
• 3 suspended/revoked licenses	• 10 total arrests
• 7 uninsured motorists	• 144 total tickets issued

For more information on the *Click It or Ticket* mobilization, visit www.BuckleUpIllinois.org. This campaign was paid for by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

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