



News from the Shelby County Sheriff's Office

Mark H. Luttrell, Jr., Sheriff

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Deputies Watch For Seatbelt Violations During Safety Initiative

Sheriff's Deputies will join law enforcement officers from across the nation during the next couple of weeks to target people not wearing their seat belts. The **"Click-It or Ticket"** safety initiative begins May 18 and continues through June 1.

"Deputies in our Traffic, Metro DUI, Patrol and Reserve bureaus will be on the lookout for violations. Although people know the dangers of not wearing seat belts, Deputies continue to see drivers and their passengers not buckled up," said Shelby County Sheriff Mark H. Luttrell, Jr.

The **Governor's Highway Safety Office** will pay for Deputies to work overtime to stop those not wearing seat belts, driving recklessly, speeding or impaired by alcohol and drugs.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) says more than 10,000 people not in their seat belts die in traffic crashes every year. During 2008, **six (6)** people died in vehicle crashes investigated by Sheriff's Deputies. Of those six, **four (4)** people were not wearing their seat belts.

NHTSA statistics show pickup truck drivers and their passengers lead the nation for not wearing seat belts along with teenagers and young men 18-34 years-old.

"Our presence on the roadways will send a clear message to motorists. Traffic safety will be our top priority in Shelby County during the national 'Click-It or Ticket' campaign," added Sheriff Luttrell.

(End of Release)