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Arizona Child Passenger Safety Week Begins Sunday

Education and Enforcement Program Runs from September 14 through September 20

PHOENIX – The Governor's Office of Highway Safety announces the beginning of Child Passenger Safety week on Sunday, September 14 through Saturday, September 20. During this week, the Governor's Office of Highway Safety will partner with state agencies, law enforcement, hospitals, and non-profit organizations to educate drivers about child safety seat usage.

The Governor's Office of Highway Safety, in partnership with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, supports this program to increase child safety seat and booster seat usage throughout the state by educating the public and enforcing Arizona's child safety seat laws. Arizona's seat belt law A.R.S. 28-907 requires that every child under five years of age must be properly placed in a federally-approved child safety seat, appropriate to the child's height and weight. On August 2, 2012, Arizona passed its booster seat law. The law now additionally requires children who are at least five years of age, who are under eight years of age and who are not more than four feet nine inches tall to be restrained in a booster seat. This is a primary offense.

As part of the national Child Passenger Safety Week, law enforcement agencies throughout the State will increase enforcement of Arizona's child safety seat laws as well as participate in community events with businesses, hospitals, and community organizations to raise public awareness about the importance of child safety seats.

Law enforcement agencies will be partnering with fire departments, hospitals, health organizations, local businesses, and non-profit groups to provide educational and public awareness activities promoting the proper use of child safety seats. A complete schedule of events is available on the GOHS website at www.azgohs.gov.

In 2013, 10 children under the age of five were killed in motor vehicle collisions in Arizona and 772 Arizona children under the age of five sustained injuries resulting from motor vehicle collisions. In the same year, 10,013 children under the age of five involved in motor vehicle collisions were uninjured as a result of being properly secured in a child safety seat.

"The enforcement and community events taking place over the next week will help prevent needless tragedies on our streets and highways," said Alberto Gutier. **"It is important that before you start a trip, no matter how short, your children are properly secured in a child safety seat and that you take the time to buckle up."**

BUCKLE UP ARIZONA...IT'S THE LAW!

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