



NEWS – Statewide Law Enforcement

For Immediate Release

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For more information: NDDOT Public Information Officer, (701) 328-4444.

872 Citations for Seat Belt, Child Restraint in July

Statewide – Extra traffic safety patrols during the month of July resulted in over 2,400 citizen contacts across North Dakota. Forty-eight law enforcement agencies, including the North Dakota Highway Patrol, added extra shifts in July for *Click It Or Ticket* seat belt enforcement.

A total of 2,351 citations were attributed to the added patrols. Of the total, 848 were citations for failure to use a proper safety restraint and 24 were child restraint citations. Tickets for speeding totaled 915. The traffic stops also resulted in eight felony violation arrests, 15 drug arrests and eleven alcohol-related arrests or citations.

The purpose of heightened enforcement of seat belt laws is to save lives, because failure to use a seat belt is the most common factor associated with motor vehicle crash injuries and deaths. Last year in North Dakota, 93 percent of uninjured survivors of fatal crashes *were* wearing a seat belt.

Counting only those who were traveling in a seat belt-equipped vehicle, seven out of nine crash fatalities in the 20 days from July 22 through August 10 were *not* wearing a seat belt.

Funding for additional traffic safety enforcement is provided by federal grant money distributed through the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT).

Learn more about traffic safety initiatives at ndcodefortheroad.org or join the conversation on the *Code for the Road* Facebook page or Twitter.

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