



2011-15

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS AN INCREASED EFFORT TO MAXIMIZE SEAT-BELT USE AMONG 16-20 YEAR-OLD PASSENGER VEHICLE OCCUPANTS

WHEREAS, according to the National Highways Traffic Safety Administration in 2006, 58 percent of 16-20-year-old passenger vehicle occupants killed were unrestrained;

WHEREAS, teens have lower observed seat-belt use rates than adults;

WHEREAS, one of the most effective measures a teen can undertake to prevent injury and death in a crash is to wear a seat belt;

WHEREAS, 80 percent of drivers aged 16 through 20 years identified fear of being cited as the sole reason for wearing their seat belts;

WHEREAS, an increased perception of the risk of enforcement is a means to increase seat-belt use for this age group;

WHEREAS, statistics indicate lower seat belt use rates and higher fatality rates during nighttime hours;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) encourages all law enforcement agencies to engage in an enhanced effort to increase seat-belt use among teen drivers and passengers, especially during nighttime hours;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NSA continues to support sustained high-visibility enforcement of seat-belt laws and encourages all agencies to participate in Click It or Ticket and State seat-belt mobilizations and campaigns that increase seat-belt use.

Adopted at a Meeting of the General Membership in St. Louis, MO on June 20, 2011.