



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

LATAH COUNTY, IDAHO

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Wayne Rausch

Sheriff

Brian Strampher

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Media/Press Release

To: All Media/Press outlets
From: Detective Jennifer L. McFarland
Public Information Officer
CC: File
Re: Joint emphasis patrol
Date: 31 January 2005

The Latah County Sheriff's Office and the Moscow Police Department are teaming up with the Idaho Transportation Department "Click It, Don't Risk It" campaign as part of the National Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week February 7-19th. County and City Peace Officers will be paying extra attention to seatbelt violations during this period by conducting a saturation patrol in effort to educate the public about the importance of buckling up.

Idaho Transportation Department Office of Traffic and Highway Safety representative Mary Hunter notes that "It is the driver who is responsible for making sure all underage passengers are buckled up and that children are properly secured in a safety seat that's right for their age and size."

Idaho laws require that all passengers wear seat belts. Adult drivers are responsible and may be ticketed if passengers under the age of 18 are not in compliance with State law.

Sheriff Wayne Rausch (LCSO) and Chief Dan Weaver (MPD) want the people of Moscow and Latah County to know that they care about them and their safety. Although tickets in Idaho only range from between \$10 to \$60 for seat belt violations, a lot more is at stake than your pocketbook. In 2003, 239 people were killed on Idaho roads; 150 were not wearing seat belts. It's not just the law, it's your life.