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The Central Falls Police Department joins *Click It or Ticket* To Crack Down on Seat Belt Use

The Central Falls Police Department will join local and national law enforcement officers and highway safety advocates all across the country for the 2013 national *Click It or Ticket* seat belt enforcement mobilization, May 20, 2013 to June 2, 2013.

During the mobilization, officers will be ticketing motorists who fail to wear their seat belts – both day and night.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in 2009 the use of seat belts in passenger vehicles saved an estimated 12,713 lives. An additional 3,688 lives would have been saved if all unrestrained passenger vehicle occupants age 5 and older involved in fatal crashes had worn their seat belts.

However, a seat belt can't save even one life if it's not used. And that's where enforcement comes into play. High-visibility enforcement campaigns such as the annual *Click It or Ticket* mobilization are widely credited with increasing the national seat belt usage rate from 58 percent in 1994 to an observed rate of 85 percent in 2010.

Seat belts provide the best defense against impaired, distracted and aggressive drivers. In fact, wearing your seat belt is the single most effective crash protection available. That's why the Central Falls Police Department is strongly supporting enhanced nighttime enforcement of seat belt laws during the May 20 to June 2, 2013, *Click It or Ticket* campaign," said police chief, Colonel James J. Mendonca. "We will be out in force to remind drivers and occupants to always wear their seat belts – both day and night."

Remember to Buckle up and encourage your loved ones to do the same. You'll save the cost of a ticket and may even save a life.