



NEWS RELEASE

NORTH DAKOTA HIGHWAY PATROL
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PATROL JOINS NATIONWIDE LIFESAVING EFFORT

The North Dakota Highway Patrol will join law enforcement agencies nationwide as part of the May Mobilization safety restraint enforcement effort. From May 18 through May 31, 2009, troopers will join more than 12,000 other state and local law enforcement agencies along with highway safety officials for an aggressive national 'Click It or Ticket' mobilization. Seat belt and child restraint laws will be strictly enforced!

Troopers will be assigned to work approximately 1,200 overtime hours over this 2-week time period in an effort to maintain high visibility on the state's highways. Funding for this effort is provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration through the North Dakota Department of Transportation. Special emphasis will be placed on peak travel times, especially the Memorial holiday period. Of the 29 people killed in North Dakota motor vehicle crashes so far in 2009, 20 (74%) were not wearing a seatbelt. Troopers will take strict enforcement action against unbuckled vehicle occupants.

Ten traffic deaths have occurred on North Dakota highways during the last four Memorial holiday periods. "The summer travel season kicks off with the Memorial Day holiday period," said Colonel Mark Nelson. Increased traffic can be expected on North Dakota highways. "Troopers will be highly visible and working hard providing quality law enforcement services to the traveling public with the goal of crash prevention," said Nelson.

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