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**Clinton County Health Department
Press Release
Traffic Safety Program
“Buckle Up New York” – Spring BUNY Wave**

Clinton County Traffic Safety announces the start of the “Buckle Up New York, Click It...Or Ticket” seat belt campaign. In Clinton County, the Clinton County Sheriff’s Department, Plattsburgh City Police Department and SUNY Plattsburgh Police Department will join hundreds of other law enforcement agencies across the country in renewing a pledge to save lives by intensifying efforts to enforce seat belt laws. The 2008 *Click It or Ticket* mobilization runs from May 19 – June 1. America's Seat Belt Campaign *Click It or Ticket* is the most successful seat belt enforcement campaign ever, helping create the highest national seat belt usage rate of 82 percent. Coast to coast, day or night, the message is simple - ***Click It or Ticket.***

In 2006, thirty percent of highway deaths in New York State occurred to occupants who were unrestrained. This enforcement effort is intended to save lives by ensuring all motorists and their passengers wear safety belts. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of unintentional injury related death for people age 1 to 64 years in the United States. Proper safety belt and child restraint use saves lives and prevents injuries. With summer travel fast approaching, it is important for people to remember to start off any trip, no matter how short or long, by fastening their seatbelts. In addition, this is an excellent time to demonstrate to our children the importance of buckling our safety belts. Children are more likely to stay in car seats, and continue seatbelt use into adulthood, if they see parents regularly buckling up.

Regular seat belt use is the single most effective way to protect people and reduce motor vehicle crash fatalities. Wearing your seat belt is easy and it costs nothing. Not wearing it might cost you a ticket, or worse — your life. Be safe and buckle up day and night — *Click It or Ticket.*

NEW YORK STATE LAW:

- All front seat passengers must wear seatbelts regardless of age.
- All rear seat passengers must wear seatbelts under the age of 16 years.
- All children under 4 years old must be properly restrained in a federally approved child safety seat.
- All children between the ages of 4 and 7 years must be buckled with a lap and shoulder belt in booster seats or appropriate child safety restraints.

Endorsed by: _____
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