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**LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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**DATE/ TIME OF RELEASE:** 5/17/2019 1:00 pm

**NATURE OF STORY:** Lane County Sheriff's Office to Participate in  
Nation-Wide Seat Belt Enforcement Blitz

**DETAILS:**

From May 20–June 2, 2019, law enforcement agencies across the Nation are stepping up enforcement to crack down on motorists who aren't wearing their seat belts during the annual *Click It or Ticket* campaign.

*Click It or Ticket* isn't about citations; it's about saving lives. In 2017, there were 10,076 unbuckled passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes in the United States. To help prevent crash fatalities, Lane County Sheriff's Office deputies will be out in the community participating in this enforcement effort.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office received special allocated funding from the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association to provide overtime patrols with a focus on traffic and life safety. Through the grant funding, LCSO deputies will be conducting overtime patrols in the Lane County area. The focus of the enforcement will be seat belt use, child safety seat use, cellular telephone use, speeding, and aggressive driving.

In 2017, there were 12,786 passenger vehicle fatalities in rural locations in the United States, compared to 10,316 fatalities in urban locations. Out of those fatalities, 49 percent of those killed in the rural locations were not wearing their seat belts, compared to 44 percent in urban locations. We want ALL of our community members to be safe!

The Lane County Sheriff's Office wants to remind motorists to buckle up, drive safely and drive sober. With the passage of Oregon's marijuana laws, this is also a reminder of the impairment marijuana creates in drivers, impacting their ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUI) applies to drivers under the influence of marijuana, as it does with alcohol.

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