



Vacaville Police Department

660 Merchant Street

Vacaville, California 95688

Communications Center: 707.449.5200

Internet: <http://www.cityofvacaville.com/departments/police/pressrelease.php>

Press Release

Today's Date: 05-14-09
Date & Time Occurred: 05-18-09 through 05-31-09
Submitted By: Sgt. Terry Cates
Phone: 707.449.5259
Type of Crime/Incident: Click it or Ticket Campaign



STEER CLEAR OF VACAVILLE POLICE BY BUCKLING UP

Price of Seatbelt Ticket Rises to \$132

Vacaville, Calif. – Keep you and your family safe and \$132 in your wallet by making sure everyone wears their seat belts for every trip. That's the message that Vacaville is telling drivers as part of the 2009 start-of-summer *Click It or Ticket* mobilization, May 18 – 31, 2009. Fines and fees have gone from under \$100 previously to \$132 this year for first time adult seat belt violations. For children under 16, the fine is now \$435 for the first time offense.

No warnings will be given out, as Vacaville Police will be aggressively enforcing the state's occupant protection laws. The *Click It or Ticket* campaign relies on heavy enforcement and public education as a means to help save lives on California's roadways.

"Seat belts save thousands of lives every year," said Police Chief Rich Word. "Buckling up will not only save you a heavy fine, it can also save your life. We're not giving warnings. It's Click It or Ticket."

Currently California has a seat belt usage rate of 95.7 percent, but that still means over one half million people are not buckling up. Properly restrained drivers, passengers and children have a 50 percent better chance of surviving a crash than unbelted occupants. Those ejected from vehicles in crashes or roll-overs are up to 35 times more likely to die than restrained occupants.

"Buckling up just makes sense," said Christopher J. Murphy, Director of the California Office of Traffic Safety. "It takes only two seconds for an action that can make the difference whether you or your family gets home today."

More than 90 local law enforcement agencies statewide and the CHP will be participating in this year's *Click It or Ticket* mobilization. Funding to support California's *Click It or Ticket* campaign was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Criminal activity can be reported at www.cityofvacaville.com/departments/police, or you can call "Crime Stoppers" and leave an anonymous tip at 707-644-STOP(7867). Crime Stoppers may pay up to \$1,000 for information that leads to an arrest.