

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 27, 2022

Click It or Ticket begins Nov. 1

GRAND FORKS, N.D. – In North Dakota, unbelted motor vehicle fatalities are trending higher in 2022 than in 2021. To save lives, law enforcement across the state will have extra patrols from Nov. 1 – Dec. 15 for the *Click It or Ticket* campaign enforcing the state seat belt law.

Preliminary crash fatalities in 2022 have reached 89 as of Oct. 21, 2022. Of these fatalities, nearly 64% were unbelted where seat belts were present in the vehicle, compared to the same period in 2021 where 47% of the 88 fatalities were not buckled.

Seat belts are the single most effective safety device to prevent death and injury in a motor vehicle crash. Crash data shows a direct correlation between seat belt use and injury severity. Unbelted vehicle occupants in crashes in North Dakota account for the largest percent of fatalities, while belted occupants most commonly receive non-serious or no injuries.

"Protect yourself every time you travel by buckling up whether you're the driver or the passenger. Encourage others in the vehicle to buckle up as well," said Grand Forks Police Chief Mark Nelson.

This campaign is part of the <u>Vision Zero</u> strategy to eliminate motor vehicle crash fatalities and serious injuries on North Dakota roads.

Visit the <u>North Dakota Crash Memorial Wall</u> to view memorials built on the hope of preventing another death on North Dakota roads.

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