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**NEWS RELEASE**

## **METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Service, Integrity, Leadership, and Fair Treatment to All

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### **Metropolitan Police Department to Participate in Youth Seat Belt Enforcement**

The Metropolitan Police Department, City of St. Louis announced today they are joining with statewide law enforcement March 15-31 for an aggressive youth seat belt mobilization to crack down on Missouri's seat belt law violators and to reduce highway fatalities.

Only 67 percent of Missouri teens wear their seat belts while driving or riding in a motor vehicle. Eight out of ten teens killed in traffic crashes are unbuckled.

Under the Graduated Driver's License (GDL) law, teens are required to wear their seat belt as it's a primary offense, meaning they can be pulled over solely for not wearing their seat belt.

"Local motorists should be prepared for stepped up seat belt enforcement," said Lieutenant Carlos Ross, Commander of the Traffic Safety Division. "We'll be out there to remind you seat belts can – and do – save lives."

Seat belt use is the single most effective way to protect people and reduce fatalities in motor vehicle crashes.

Buckle Up and Arrive Alive. For more information on Missouri seat belt usage, visit [www.saveMOlives.com](http://www.saveMOlives.com).

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