

## Governor's Highway Safety Office Launches *Hands Across the Border* Event

Nashville, Tenn. – More than 15,000 passenger vehicle occupants across the United States died in traffic crashes between the nighttime hours of 6:00 p.m. and 5:59 a.m. during 2005, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) – and 59 percent of those passenger vehicle occupants killed were **NOT** wearing their seat belts at the time of the fatal crash.

The proportion of unbuckled deaths at night is considerably higher than the nearly as alarming 44 percent of passenger vehicle occupants who were not wearing their seats belts and were killed during daytime hours across the nation that same year.



Troopers at a *Hands Across the Border* event.

The Governor's Highway Safety Office held several *Hands Across the Border* media events in May. *Hands Across the Border* is designed to bring awareness to this year's national "Click It or Ticket" summer campaign. The media events brought together troopers, local officers, government agencies and traffic safety advocates from Tennessee as well as the Southeastern border states. Agencies in Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Missouri and Mississippi joined forces with the Volunteer State in a pledge to actively enforce safety belt laws, increase safety patrols and conduct sobriety checkpoints during the heavily traveled summer months. The goal this year is simple: to save more lives by convincing more motorists to buckle up – day and night.

"Clearly more drivers at night, than during the day, are taking the attitude that 'it will never happen to me,' but the risk of a fatal crash actually goes

up significantly at night," Commissioner Gerald Nicely, Tennessee Department of Transportation said. "It only makes sense to protect vehicle occupants by being properly restrained."

Kendell Poole, Director of the Governor's Highway Safety Office said, "Regular seat belt use is the single most effective way to protect people and reduce fatalities in motor vehicle crashes. In 2005, 77 percent of passenger vehicle occupants in a serious crash who were buckled up, survived the crash, and that when worn correctly, seat belts have proven to reduce the risk of fatal injury to front-seat passenger car occupants by 45 percent – and by 60 percent – in pickup trucks, SUVs and mini-vans."

Yet nearly one in five Americans (19 percent nationally) still fail to regularly wear their seat belts when driving or riding in a motor vehicle according to NHTSA's observational seat belt studies.

Stepped-up law enforcement activities were conducted during the national "Click It or Ticket" enforcement

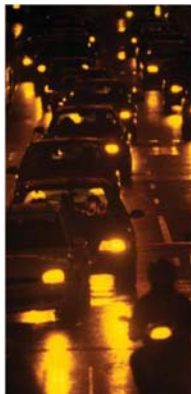
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Director Poole being interviewed for the *Hands Across the Border* event in Nashville.

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## Tennessee Lifesavers 2007 August 16, 2007



The Tennessee Department of Transportation Governor's Highway Safety Office cordially invites you to attend the 20th annual Tennessee Lifesavers Conference.

Tennessee Lifesavers is designed for law enforcement, prosecutors, judicial personnel, child passenger safety (CPS) technicians, educators, highway safety advocates and any member of the general public interested in learning more about highway safety issues. The conference goal is to develop strategies, build alliances and communicate agendas towards reducing the tragic toll of deaths and injuries on Tennessee's roadways.

Conference sessions will focus on impaired driving, motorcycle safety and successful enforcement. CEU's will be available for child passenger safety (CPS) sessions; CPS vendors will be in those sessions. A victim impact panel presented by MADD and a diversity session will be featured. Sessions will zero in on collision data and DUI tracking to round out session offerings.

### Conference Agenda

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2007

Loews Vanderbilt Hotel

5:30 p.m. Opening Reception

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 2007

Loews Vanderbilt Hotel

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. Networking Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 8:45 a.m. Conference Welcome

8:45 – 9:45 a.m. General Session: *Lifesavers at 25...What Do the Next 25 Years Hold for Traffic Safety?*, James H. Hedlund, Highway Safety North, Ithaca, New York

9:45 – 10:00 a.m. Break

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. General Session: *Traffic Safety: Education and Enforcement*, Captain Andrew Hall, Fresno Police Department Traffic Bureau, CA

11:30 – 1:00 p.m. Tennessee Lifesavers Awards Luncheon

1:15 – 5:00 p.m. Three conference session series

5:00 p.m. Conference ends

Please visit the TTSRS website at <http://www.tntrafficsafety.org> to register for the conference.



## Law Enforcement Challenge August 17, 2007



The Law Enforcement Challenge Program is an incentive/award program designed to award law enforcement agencies for outstanding achievements regarding highway safety enforcement and education programs throughout the state. The program is designed after the International Association

of Chiefs of Police (IACP) "Chief's Challenge" and incorporates many of the same elements such as application submission and scoring. This year the Law Enforcement challenge will be held on August 17, 2007 at Loews Vanderbilt Hotel. Please visit the TTSRS website at <http://www.tntrafficsafety.org> to register for the Challenge.

## Governor's Highway Safety Office Launches *Hands Across the Border* Event (continued)

mobilization. The mobilization was supported by a projected \$10 million in paid national advertising, and additional advertising in each state, to encourage all motorists, but especially motorists at night, to always buckle up.

“Seat belts clearly save lives. But unfortunately, too many folks still need a tough reminder, so we are going to be out in force buckling down on those who are not buckled up,” said Colonel Mike Walker, Tennessee



Officials announce the *Hands Across the Border* event at the Memphis press conference.

Highway Patrol. “Wearing your seat belt costs you nothing, but the cost for not wearing it certainly will. So unless you want to risk a ticket, or worse—your life, please remember to buckle up day **and** night - ‘Click It Or Ticket.’”

For more information on Tennessee’s traffic safety laws, please visit <http://www.tntrafficsafety.org> . ■

## West TN Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Inspection Locations

**LeMoyné-Owen College** - Memphis. For info contact: Keith Millbrook @ 901.596.7774, Daniel Viverette @ 901.371.7848, or Anjorita Hopson @ 901.830.5457. By appointment only.

**Children & Family Services** - Covington. For info contact: Christine Jones @ 901.487.5604. By appointment only.

**Hanley Head Start** - Memphis. For info contact: Tawanda Howard @ 901.922.0861 or Marquette Burns @ 901.628.2339. By appointment only.

**Shelby Residential & Vocational Services** - Memphis. For info contact: Nicolas Tatum @ 901.869.9286. By appointment only.

**LeMoyné-Owen College/ Second Chance** - Memphis. For info contact: Joy Turner @ 901.774.8773. By appointment only.

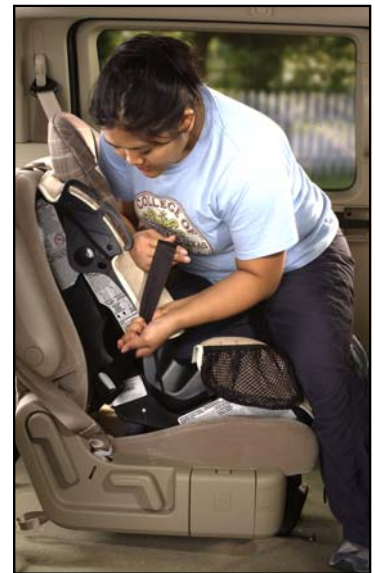
**M.C. Outreach Learning Center** - Memphis. For info contact: Ferrin Jefferson @ 901.947.6525. By appointment only.

**Primary Prep Head Start** - Memphis. For info contact: Tracey Lowery, Kendra Mull, Shante Jones @ 901.358.6555 ext. 14 . By appointment only.

**Crump Health Center**. - Memphis. For info contact: Henry Johnson @ 901.261.2049 or Valery Vann @ 901.649.6807. By appointment only.

**Bickford Head Start** - Memphis. For info contact: Tamika Lockett @ 901-922-0831. By appointment only.

For more information, contact the West TN Child Passenger Center at 901.435.1543 or the TN Traffic Safety Resource Service at 1.800.99BELTS (2.3587). For specific Child Passenger Safety needs, visit our website @ <http://tntrafficsafety.org> .



## GHSO Training 2007 Calendar: July, August, September

### July 2007

- Advanced Traffic Crash Investigation
- At-Scene Traffic Crash Investigation
- Cops in Court
- Electronic Traffic Crash Reporting
- Law Enforcement Instructor Development
- Officer Spanish Communication I & II
- Officer Spanish Communication III
- Standardized Child Passenger Safety Training
- Standardized Child Passenger Safety Recert.
- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Instructor
- Stops Instructor
- Verbal Judo Basic

### August 2007

- Advanced Standardized Field Sobriety Testing
- Basic Radar Operator
- Cops in Court
- Electronic Traffic Crash Reporting
- Officer Spanish Communication I & II
- Officer Spanish Communication III
- Standardized Child Passenger Safety Training

### August continued

- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing
- Stops Instructor
- Verbal Judo Basic
- Verbal Judo Instructor

### September 2007

- Advanced Traffic Crash Investigation
- Electronic Traffic Crash Reporting
- Officer Spanish Communication I & II
- Radar Instructor
- Standardized Child Passenger Safety Training
- Standardized Child Passenger Safety Recert.
- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing
- Traffic Crash Reconstruction
- Verbal Judo Basic
- Verbal Judo Instructor

For a specific course description, date and location, please visit the TN Traffic Safety Resource website at : [www.tntrafficsafety.org](http://www.tntrafficsafety.org) and click on GHSO 2006-2007 Training. ■



**TTSRS Director**  
Karen Simerly

**Graphic Designer**  
Lorna Keathley

For more information on TTSRS or to submit comments or suggestions contact:

**TN Traffic Safety Resource Service**  
309 Conference Center Bldg.  
Knoxville, TN 37996-4133  
Office: **1.800.99BELTS (TN Only)**  
Fax: 865-974-3889  
E-Mail: [simerly@utk.edu](mailto:simerly@utk.edu)

**Governor's Highway Safety Office**  
**James K. Polk Office Building**  
**505 Deaderick Street, 18th Floor**  
**Nashville, TN 37243**  
**Office: 615-741-2589**

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Tennessee Traffic Safety Resource Service  
Center for Transportation Research  
The University of Tennessee  
309 Conference Center Building  
Knoxville, TN 37996-4133  
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April - June 07

