Julie L. Jones **Executive Director**



Rick Scott

Pam Bondi Attorney General

Teff Atwater

Adam Putnam Commissioner of Agriculture

2900 Apalachee Parkway Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0500 www.flhsmv.gov

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FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL (850) 617-2301

CONTACT: CAPT. NANCY RASMUSSEN

YOUR LIFE CAN BE SAVED WITH JUST A CLICK

~ Troopers to join nationwide effort ~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Motorists beware: *Click it or Ticket* is here. The Florida Highway Patrol will join local and national law enforcement officers and highway safety advocates across the country for the national Click It or Ticket safety belt enforcement campaign that kicks off May 21 and ends June 3. During the mobilization, officers will help save lives by cracking down on those who do not buckle up.

"While Florida reached a record high last year for safety belt use, we still see many drivers and passengers who fail to buckle up. All too often it ends in tragedy," said FHP Director, Col. David Brierton. "One of our goals is to save lives through education and enforcement campaigns such as Click it or Ticket."

Safety belt use saves thousands of lives across America each year and FHP is helping to spread the word in Florida. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration statistics show that in 2010 alone, safety belts saved an estimated 12,546 lives nationwide. For more on *Click It or Ticket*, please visit NHTSA's website at www.nhtsa.gov/PEAK. For additional details and statistics on the Sunshine State's 2011 safety belt usage, to include county statistics, visit the Florida Department of Transportation's website at www.dot.state.fl.us/safety/.

Florida law requires all drivers and occupants in the front seat of a vehicle to fasten their safety belts. Occupants under the age of 18, regardless of where they sit in a vehicle, also must buckle up. Motorist cited for failure to buckle up face a non-moving violation.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provides highway safety and security through excellence in service, education and enforcement. The Department is leading the way to a safer Florida through the efficient and professional execution of its core mission: the issuance of driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and operation of the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV and the services offered, visit www.flhsmv.gov or follow us on Twitter at @FDHSMV.

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