

# Middletown Lands Victory in Statewide High School Click It or Ticket Contest

MIDDLETOWN, DE—The [Delaware Office of Highway Safety](#) announces that Middletown High School is the winner of the 2015 “Click It or Ticket” seat belt contest. The contest was coordinated by Delaware law enforcement school resource officers across the state. Officers and student helpers undertook a weeklong educational campaign for high school students, which included [“Excuse Busted” seat belt posters](#) peppered throughout the schools, online posts, morning announcements and [videos](#). To gauge the impact on students, officers conducted pre and post campaign seatbelt use surveys at the entrances and exits to the high school. Officers distributed [“Pass/Fail” tickets](#) to students entering or exiting the parking lot as a friendly reminder to buckle up. In comparing the before and after totals, Middletown High School and its school resource officer, Delaware State Police Cpl. Pauline Waibel, were declared the winner with a 28 percent increase in seat belt use.

“We want young drivers and their passengers to use seat belts every time they get in a vehicle,” says Jana Simpler, Director of the Office of Highway Safety. “This educational effort was designed to engage students in discussions about seat belt use and dispel myths that typically keep teens from buckling up. Click it or Ticket is focused on keeping all occupants in a vehicle safe and we congratulate Middletown High School students for getting the message and sharing it with their peers.”

Middletown’s SRO and student helpers will receive a pizza party sponsored by Grotto Pizza to congratulate them for their efforts. McKean High School and Brandywine High School took

second and third place respectively.

More than 92 percent of people in Delaware wear their seat belts. A seat belt reduces a risk of injuries or death in a vehicle crash by half.

Get the seat belt facts:

- Delaware law enforcement issue an average of 998 seat belt tickets per month
- May, June, July are the months with the most seat belt tickets written in Delaware
- Each individual fatality costs society \$1.4 million dollars
- From 2008-2012 seat belts saved nearly 63,000 lives
- Most crashes happen within 25 miles of home. Always buckle up.

Learn more about seat belts by visiting [www.buckleupde.org](http://www.buckleupde.org).