



# Tigard Police Department Media Release

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## **Tigard PD to Participate in Seat Belt & Car Seat Safety Blitz**

As part of a national safety campaign, Tigard Police will join other law enforcement agencies across Oregon in a two-week safety blitz aimed at educating the public about seat belt and child seat laws.

Officers will work overtime hours funded through a federal grant and watch for drivers who are not following Oregon laws related to seat belts and/or child restraints. While focused on restraints, they will also be on the lookout for speeding, distracted driving and other violations impacting traffic safety.

The enforcement campaign begins Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup> and runs through Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup>.

The goal of this campaign is to save lives. The focus is also to ensure that parents and caregivers are correctly using the right car seats (rear-facing, forward-facing and/or booster seats) or seat belts for their child's age and size.

When it comes to child seats and seatbelts, please remember:

- In Oregon, children are required to remain in a rear-facing car seat until they are at least 2 years old, thanks to a law that was passed in 2017.
- A child over the age of 2 can move to a front-facing car seat with a five-point harness. Once a child reaches 40 pounds, he or she can use a booster seat until they reach age 8 or a height of 4'9", at which time an adult seat belt should fit them correctly.
- Car crashes are the leading nationwide cause of death for kids ages 1-12. Car seats may increase crash survival by 71% for babies under the age of 1 and up to 59% for toddlers age 1-4.
- Seat belts used correctly can reduce the risk of major crash injury or death by up to 65%.

For help selecting or installing a car seat, here is a good place to start:

[http://oregonimpact.org/Child\\_Passenger\\_Safety](http://oregonimpact.org/Child_Passenger_Safety)

<https://www.nhtsa.gov/equipment/car-seats-and-booster-seats#inspection-inspection>

Tigard Police would like to thank the Oregon Department of Transportation for awarding the grant on behalf of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).