



TOWN OF MADISON

2120 Fish Hatchery Road • Madison, WI 53713-1289
Police Department: (608) 210-7262 • Fax: (608) 210-7237
www.town.madison.wi.us/police/index.html



NEWS RELEASE

April 30, 2010

For more information, contact:

Monona Police Chief Walter Ostrenga, 608-222-0463

Town of Madison Police Department Chief Scott Gregory, 608-210-7262

Monona and Town of Madison police departments each receive \$10,000 grants for high-visibility safety belt enforcement

To save lives and reduce serious injuries by increasing safety belt use, the Town of Madison and the City of Monona police departments will each receive \$10,000 grants from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for high-visibility safety belt enforcement in their jurisdictions.

The agencies will use the funding for overtime to put more officers on patrol.

Officers also will deploy portable road signs to increase the visibility and effectiveness of their safety belt enforcement efforts.

“Our officers will be out in force looking for unbuckled motorists. Our message is simple and straightforward – if you’re not wearing a safety belt, we will stop your vehicle and you will get a ticket,” said Town of Madison Police Chief Scott Gregory.

Monona Police Chief Walter Ostrenga said, “Our goal with high-visibility safety belt enforcement is not to write more tickets but to save lives and reduce injuries through voluntary compliance with Wisconsin’s mandatory safety belt law. However, if voluntary compliance fails, we will stringently enforce the law.”

Currently, one in four Wisconsin motorists does not buckle up, which is one of the lowest safety belt compliance rates in the nation. In fatal Dane County traffic crashes in 2008 and 2009 for which safety belt use could be determined, approximately 55 percent of the motorists killed were not buckled.

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MEDIA ADVISORY

April 28, 2010

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Monona Police Chief Walter Ostrenga, 608-222-0463

Town of Madison Police Department Chief Scott Gregory, 608-210-7262

NEWS CONFERENCE ON FRIDAY, APRIL 30

**Monona and Town of Madison police officers
to begin high-visibility safety belt enforcement wave**

To save lives and reduce serious injuries by increasing safety belt use, the Town of Madison and the City of Monona police departments will each receive \$10,000 grants from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation to implement high-visibility safety belt enforcement in their jurisdictions.

The agencies will use the federal funding for overtime to put more officers on patrol.

WHEN: 10:30 a.m., Friday, April 30, 2010

WHERE: Public Storage, 6414 Cops Ave, Monona (N.W. corner of Broadway and Hwy 15)

WHAT: Media may ride along with officers on safety belt enforcement patrols following the news conference. The high-visibility safety belt enforcement vests available for officers' use and the portable road signs will be on display.

SPEAKERS:

- Town of Madison Police Chief Scott Gregory
- Monona Police Chief Walter Ostrenga
- State Patrol Major Dan Lonsdorf, director of the WisDOT Bureau of Transportation Safety