

March 14, 2011

News Release

*For Immediate Release*

### **Youth Safety Belt Enforcement**

From March 15th through March 31st, Springfield Police will focus efforts on "Operation Safe Teen" in which patrol and traffic officers will aggressively enforce seat belt violations in order to reduce highway fatalities.

Nearly one in four Missourians still fail to regularly wear their safety belts when driving or riding in a motor vehicle. Teens are even less likely to wear their seat belts with only 66% regularly buckling up. Eight out of ten teens killed in traffic crashes are unbuckled.

Daily, there is a loss in life due to the driver or occupants not wearing a seat belt.

Seat belts can and do save lives.

Media Contact: Cpl. Matt Brown, phone: 417-864-1786

Release authorized by: Lt. Faye Barksdale



### **Springfield Police Department**

Headquarters: 321 E. Chestnut Expy., Springfield, MO 65802

South District Station: 2620 W. Battlefield Rd., Springfield, MO 65807

417-864-1810