



WESTPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Foti Koskinas
Chief of Police

Press Release

Westport Police Department Announces Results of Holiday Click It or Ticket Campaign

(*Westport, CT*) – As previously announced, the Westport Police Department recently participated in the Connecticut Department of Transportation's *Click it or Ticket* Campaign. This enforcement and awareness campaign ran from Monday November 25th through Monday December 2, 2019; a time period running concurrent with the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

To say that we are collectively pleased with our individual results is an understatement. Despite the significant increase in vehicular traffic on our roadways associated with holiday travelers, four infractions were issued for safety restraint violations. These four citations issued were out of the over one hundred motorists in total that were stopped by our officers during the timeframe of the campaign.

In the year 2019 the state of Connecticut bests the national average in seatbelt usage, with this continuing a recent trend upwards in the numbers measuring seatbelt compliance. Research on 2019 data has the national average for seatbelt usage at 89.6%, with Connecticut's rate at 93.7%. Connecticut surpassed the national average in the year 2017 after multiple years of coming in slightly below it, and has increased this margin by at least one percent each year since. Our recent results certainly support the accuracy of this data.

Despite these encouraging numbers, the goal of all of the stakeholders in these campaigns continues to be 100% compliance. We will therefore continue to work collectively to achieve that number. Research has proven time and time again that wearing a safety belt has been instrumental in preventing serious injury or death in traffic collisions; potentially a life or death decision made every time you get behind the wheel. We ask that you please make the smart choice and *Buckle Up – Every Trip. Every Time.*

For those seeking more information on this campaign, please visit:
<https://portal.ct.gov/DOT/Programs/Click-it-or-Ticket>

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