

# PRESSRELEASE

Mayor's Office • 100 East Michigan Blvd. • Michigan City, IN 46360 • (219)873-1400 • Fax: (219)873-1515

[www.emichigancity.com](http://www.emichigancity.com)

## For Immediate Release

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## Obeying The Law Ensures Family Safety

**Michigan City, IN** (August 25, 2003) – As the summer comes to an end, many families will spend the last summer holiday traveling. The Labor Day weekend has traditionally been a very dangerous time for travelers on the roads. Police Chief Gene Simmons and the Michigan City Police Department will be working toward changing that tradition in our community.

“Indiana statistics show that when parents aren’t buckled up,” said Chief Simmons, “only 57.9 per cent of children are restrained. When the parents are buckled up, their children are buckled in 92.8 per cent of the time. With those statistics in mind, the Michigan City Police Department will be reminding the community to “Click It or Ticket.” And for your family’s safety, Indiana’s seat belt law will be enforced.”

Indiana law states that all front seat passengers and children under the age of 12 must be properly restrained. “Our officers will be out on the roads ensuring that all families know and obey the law,” said Chief Simmons.

Law enforcement officers from the Michigan City Police Department will participate in Click It or Ticket through September 6<sup>th</sup> along with more than 250 other law enforcement agencies across Indiana. Seat belt enforcement zones will be in place in an effort to crack down on those drivers who fail to buckle up themselves and their passengers.

“We join the Governor's Council on Impaired & Dangerous Driving, a division of the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, in our commitment to increasing seat belt usage and compliance with child restraint laws,” said Chief Simmons. “We are committed to ensuring that Michigan City residents and visitors enjoy a safe Labor Day weekend.”

For more information regarding Click It or Ticket, contact the Michigan City Police Department at 219/874-3221, Traffic Division at 219/873-1484, the Governor’s Council at 317/232-1295, or visit [www.in.gov/cji/clickit](http://www.in.gov/cji/clickit).