



Press Release
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AGENCY: CARVER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SHERIFF: JASON KAMERUD *824ts*

CLASSIFICATION: SEATBELT AND CHILD RESTRAINT EXTRA PATROLS

LOCATIONS: CARVER COUNTY

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There's nothing more heartbreaking and frustrating than hearing someone died in a crash because they weren't buckled up. It's one simple action we can do to protect ourselves while driving. So why is it people continue to make a decision that can bring such horrific results?

Some drivers and passengers may believe they're not hurting anyone but themselves by not buckling up. But in reality, if they're in a crash, their loved ones can be left behind to mourn or take care of them because they were seriously injured or killed. Let's not forget, an unbelted person can also hurt or kill those riding with them if they're thrown around the vehicle in a crash. Senseless, unbelted deaths are happening a lot more than they should. Last year, there were 108 unbelted deaths, the highest in six years. 2020 was the second highest with 105 deaths.

The numbers are unacceptable. That's why the Carver County Sheriff's Office is participating in an extra seat belt enforcement and awareness campaign coordinated by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety. The statewide campaign is running May 23 – June 5.

Let's all commit to stopping the easily preventable unbuckled deaths that are happening in Minnesota. State law requires all drivers and passengers to wear seat belts or use a correctly installed car seat. Check out DriveSmartMN.org, buckle up and live to enjoy the upcoming summer activities with family and friends.

If you need assistance from police, fire, or medical personnel call 9-1-1. Anyone with information related to an incident or crime is asked to contact the Carver County Sheriff's Office at 952-361-1212. After hours, call 952-361-1231. To remain anonymous, you may leave a message on the tip line: 952-361-1224. You may also use the tip form on the Sheriff's Office website at: <http://www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/county-sheriff/crime-prevention/crime-tips>