



## Kingman County Sheriff's Office

Randy L. Hill, Sheriff

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For more information, contact Randy Hill, 620-532-5133

### **Sheriff will conduct seat belt enforcement Oct. 31-Nov. 4**

From Oct. 31 through Nov. 4, the Kingman County Sheriff's Office will join other Kansas law enforcement agencies to stop what has been likened to an epidemic in Kansas. In 2014, 28 children ages 0-17 lost their lives due to car crashes in Kansas. Sadly, half of those children were not wearing their seat belts, and eight of them were ejected from the vehicle.

“In the health field, they talk about making sure children have received their immunizations to prevent deadly diseases,” said Sheriff Randy Hill. “But what many parents don't think about is that wearing a seat belt properly is the best prevention of serious injury or death in a vehicle.”

According to the 2016 Kansas observational seat belt survey, children are much more likely to be buckled up if the driver is wearing his or her seat belt. If the driver is buckled, about 96 percent of the children are restrained. If the driver is not buckled, only about 27 percent of the observed children were buckled.

“We want adults to model good driving behaviors for children,” Hill said.

Kingman County will be joined in this seat belt enforcement effort by law enforcement across Kansas. All will be extra vigilant when patrolling around schools. For more than 20 years, officers have educated and warned drivers and passengers regarding the importance of using seat belts while in their vehicle.

There should be no surprises when it comes to this enforcement effort. Officers will issue citations to anyone who does not obey Kansas law.

Sheriff Hill says, “Even one child's death is unacceptable. Please slow down, especially in school zones, eliminate the distractions, and always buckle up.”

For the latest data and to see more about Kansas safety belt laws, go to: [www.ktsro.org](http://www.ktsro.org)

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*Everyone charged with a criminal offense shall be presumed innocent until proven guilty according to law.*