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SAFE Campaign Kicks Off

(KAIR)--The Kansas Highway Patrol is preparing to take part in it's annual seatbelt enforcement campaign around area high schools.

The campaign is hosted by the Kansas Department of Transportation's Traffic safety section, in conjunction with Kansas' Seatbelts Are for Everyone, or SAFE program. It is scheduled to start February 23rd, and will run through March 6th.

The campaign will work to increase education and enforcement of seatbelt laws. It is designed to bring awareness to the importance of wearing a seatbelt and reducing the number of vehicle related injuries and fatalities among Kansas teens.

During the two week period, KHP troopers will work with the Brown County Sheriff's Department, the Hiawatha Police Department, and other local law enforcement officials near high schools. Anyone caught not properly restrained could be issued a citation.

The Atchison County Sheriff's Office will also be participating in the campaign, and will be conducting checks around Atchison High School during the two week period.

In 2014, Kansas lost fourteen teens in wrecks, with 63% of those victims not being properly restrained.