



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**September 10, 2015**

## **PennDOT, Safety Partners Holding Car Seat Safety Checks** *Child Passenger Safety Week September 13 to 19*

**Oil City, PA** – The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, the Pennsylvania State Police and PA Traffic Injury Prevention Project (TIPP) will hold free car seat checks as part of the annual Child Passenger Safety Week, September 13 to 19.

Car seat safety checks will be held at the following dates and locations:

- 9 AM to 1 PM, Saturday, September 12, at the Shriners Hospital for Children, 1645 West Eighth Street, Erie.
- 3 to 8 PM, Tuesday, September 15, at the Franklin Fire Department, 113 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Franklin.
- 10 AM to 2 PM, Saturday, September 19, at the Sharon Fire Department, 155 West Connelly Boulevard, Mercer.
- Noon to 5 PM, Saturday, September 19, at the Conewango Township Police Department, 4 Firemans Street, Warren.

Pennsylvania law requires that children under the age of 4 ride in a federally-approved car seat that is appropriate for the child's age, height and weight. Children between the ages of 4 and 8 must use a booster seat if they are no longer in a car seat.

The state's seat belt law mandates that children ages 8 to 17 must use a seat belt, and violating this law is a primary offense. It is a secondary offense for drivers and front seat passengers age 18 and older to travel unbuckled.

Because of the potential dangers associated with air bag deployment, children ages 12 and under should always ride in a vehicle's back seat.

On average, three out of four car seats are used incorrectly.

From 2010 to 2014, 82 percent of the children under age 4 who were involved in crashes and restrained in a child seat sustained no injury.

Nationally Certified Car Seat Technicians will be on hand at four safety stations to inspect car and booster seats, to ensure the seats are properly secured into the vehicles, and to check that children are correctly buckled up. Seats will also be evaluated for possible expirations and recalls. Adults are encouraged to take the owner's manuals for their vehicles and car seats.

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