

Milledgeville Police Department

*Office of Public Relations
Public Information Officer
Felicia Cummings*

Contact Information

*PIO F. Cummings
(478) 414-4012 office
(478) 456-0048 work cell*



NEWS RELEASE

Date: Tuesday, May 29, 2018

Division: Specialized Patrol

Officers prep for occupant protection & car seat check event

Occupant protection is an important topic for officers at the Milledgeville Police Department. In an effort to educate the public on occupant protection, MPD's Specialized Patrol Unit, will hold a Child Car Seat Check and CarFit event Wednesday, May 30 at Wal-Mart Supercenter, 2592 North Columbia Street. The event is slated to take place between 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

All MPD officers who will take part in the car seat safety check are certified and have undergone training classes to learn how to properly install seats and how to determine what size seats should be used for each child.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), car seats and boosters provide protection for infants and children in a crash, yet car crashes are a leading cause of death for children ages 1 to 13.

"A properly sized and installed car seat is critical to ensuring the safety of children in the event of a traffic accident. As we are proactive in enforcing child safety seat law, we also want to be proactive in assisting people with obtaining and installing this important part of occupant safety," said Maj. John Davis, MPD Patrol Commander.

Officers at the event are also CarFit certified.

"Making sure our area youth and our elderly are properly restrained in car seats and seat belts is a top priority for our unit," said Lt. Reenae Gray, head supervisor for SPU.

CarFit is an educational program that offers older adults the opportunity to check how well their personal vehicles "fit" them. The CarFit program also provides information and materials on community-specific resources that could enhance their safety as drivers, and/or increase their mobility in the community.

In addition to child car seat checks and CarFit, SPU officers will also have demonstration opportunities of the rollover simulator and a seat belt simulator. The Rollover Simulator is an

educational presentation about the importance of properly wearing seatbelts and using booster and/or child safety seats.

According to the Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) car crashes are the number one killer of people in every age group from 1-34. GOHS adds that seatbelt use remains a serious safety concern as two out of every three fatalities in Georgia involve unsecured occupants.

For more information about this event call Major Davis at 478-414-4064.

###