



PROCLAMATION

Recognizing

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK/NATIONAL SEAT CHECK SATURDAY 2017

Whereas, keeping children safe from harm is everyone's responsibility. However, on average 2 children under 13 were killed and 319 were injured every day in 2015 while riding in cars, SUVs, pickups, and vans. Unfortunately, these numbers are significantly higher than they were in 2014, showing a 10-percent increase in fatalities and a four-percent increase in injuries. In fact, of the past five years of available data, 2015 was the deadliest for children under 13 riding in cars, SUVs, pickups, and vans. It is important now more than ever, that we take action to ensure the safety of our children; and

Whereas, today, all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and all U.S. territories require the use of car seats for children traveling in motor vehicles. In 2015, of the 662 children 12 and younger who were killed in traffic crashes, nearly 1 in 3 were not in a car seat, booster seat, or seat belt. Of the estimated 116,000 children 12 and younger who were injured in crashes, 6,000 of them were unsecured. Many of these injuries could have been prevented had these children been buckled up in an appropriate car seat or seat belt. By working together, we can work toward eliminating these preventable deaths and injuries.

Whereas, that is why Vicksburg, MS is committed to educating parents and caregivers about the best ways to keep kids safe while travelling in cars, no matter how short or long the trip. During Child Passenger Safety Week, car seat safety checks will be held across the country. I encourage all parents and caregivers to take advantage of this service to make sure their children are in the right car seats for their ages and sizes, and that the seats are installed correctly. Certified Child Passenger Technicians from the Vicksburg Police Department will be checking car seats on Saturday, September 23, 2017, at Gaskin Chiropractic Clinic (parking lot), 3425 Pemberton Square Blvd, from 10:00am-12:00pm.

Now, Therefore, I, George Flaggs, Jr., by the authority vested in me as the Mayor of the City of Vicksburg, on behalf of the Honorable Michael A. Mayfield, Sr., North Ward Alderman and the Honorable Alex J. Monsour, Jr., South Ward Alderman, do hereby proclaim September 17-23, 2017, as "Child Passenger Safety Week," and September 23 as "National Seat Check Saturday" in Vicksburg, MS. I urge everyone to help reduce injuries and the tragic loss of life by buckling up their children and themselves correctly-every trip, every time.

In Witness Whereof, I hereunto set my hand and affix the Official Seal of the City of Vicksburg on this 15th day of September, in the year of our Lord, two thousand seventeen.

George Flaggs, Jr.
Mayor