**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: [Date]**

**CONTACT: [Name, Phone Number, Email Address]**

**NHTSA Reminds Drivers:
*Buckle Up. Every Trip. Every Time.***

**[City, State]** — The U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is working with **[Local Organization]** to make sure everyone stays safe on the roads throughout the long Thanksgiving weekend. Whether driving cross country or just across town to celebrate the holiday, everyone in a vehicle should *Buckle Up. Every Trip. Every Time.* In addition to being required by law, buckling up is the best defense against injury or death in a crash.

During the Thanksgiving holiday weekend in 2022 (6 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23, to 5:59 a.m. on Monday, November 28), there were 326 passenger vehicle occupants killed in traffic crashes across the nation, and 43% (141) were unrestrained. Not wearing a seat belt proved to be deadly at any time of the day during the holiday weekend: 47% of those killed in nighttime crashes were unbuckled, and 38% of those killed in daytime crashes also were unbuckled. These deaths represent needless tragedies for families across America and may have been prevented with the simple click of a seat belt.

“The Thanksgiving holiday is the start of a special time of year for so many people,” said **[Local Official]**. “No matter how long or short your drive, it’s critical that drivers and passengers *Buckle Up. Every Trip. Every Time.* We want everyone to have a safe and happy Thanksgiving. Please, make sure everyone in your vehicle is buckled before you ever turn on the car — and that includes children being in the correct car seats, too,” **[he/she]** said.

For more information about traveling safely this Thanksgiving, please visit [www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/seat-belts](https://www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/seat-belts).

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