

Utah Law Enforcement Speaking Points (Community Coordinator to Law Enforcement)



These speaking points are a tool to help you engage in meaningful conversations with law enforcement. They are designed to help you set a positive tone for the Together for Life Project and to connect law enforcement based on their common values toward seat belt safety. Meaningful conversations will draw attention to the concern about seat belt use and promote engagement on this issue.

The Together for Life Project promotes three key actions among law enforcement: increase seat belt use among law enforcement, promote consistent enforcement of seat belt laws, and increase public education about seat belt use.

The Good News about Seat Belt Use

- MOST Adults Believe Wearing Seat Belts Is Important¹

	Iron	Uintah
Adults who agree "it is important to protect myself by always wearing a seat belt"	94%	96%
Adults who agree they should always wear a seat belt	93%	93%
Adults who agree they want people they care about to always wear a seat belt	95%	96%
Adults who report having a family rule about wearing a seat belt (among those with families)	75%	73%

- MOST officers believe it is important to protect themselves by always wearing a seat belt.²
- MOST officers believe they should always wear a seat belt and want people they care about to always wear a seat belt.²
- MOST officers believe seat belts enhance safety.²

The Concern

Many officers are not wearing their seat belts even though they report their agencies and families have policies and rules about always wearing a seat belt.² MOST officers, (Iron 59%; Uintah 70%), strongly or mostly agree they wear a seat belt because their agency requires them to.

- MOST officers, (Iron 97%; Uintah 97%), report their agency has a policy about always wearing a seat belt.
- MOST officers, (Iron 88%; Uintah 79%), report their family has a rule about always wearing a seat belt.

However, too many officers, (Iron 24%; Uintah 17%), report not wearing a seat belt in the past week while on duty.²

The Good News about Enforcement of Seat Belt Laws:

- MOST adults believe local law enforcement should enforce Utah seat belt laws.¹

“I believe local law enforcement should enforce Utah seat belt laws.”

Iron	Uintah
66% agree	64% agree

Center for Health and Safety Culture. (2020). *Utah community survey of adults on seat belt use in Iron and Uintah Counties*. Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana. (N=673)

- MOST officers believe local law enforcement should enforce Utah seat belt laws.²

The Concern

Even though MOST officers believe local law enforcement should enforce Utah seat belt laws, they do not believe others feel the same way.

- (IR 34%; UI 27%) of officers do NOT believe that MOST people in their agency felt this way.²
- (IR 25%; UI 24%) of officers do NOT believe that MOST supervisors / leaders in their agency felt this way.²
- (IR 73%; UI 85%) of officers do NOT believe that MOST adults in their county felt this way even though most adults in the communities do support enforcement.²

References

1. Center for Health and Safety Culture. (2020). *Utah community survey of adults on seat belt use in Iron and Uintah Counties*. Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana. (N=673)
2. Center for Health and Safety Culture. (2020). *Utah law enforcement survey on seat belt use in Iron and Uintah Counties*. Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana. (N=123)