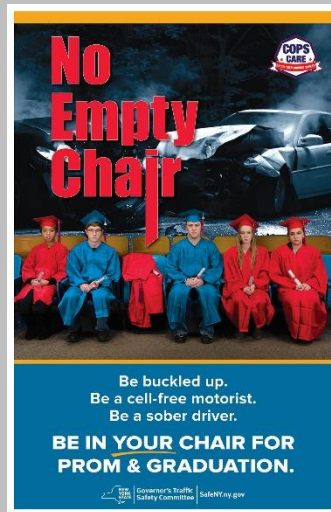


2021 “No Empty Chair” Teen Driving Safety Campaign

April 19 – April 23, 2021



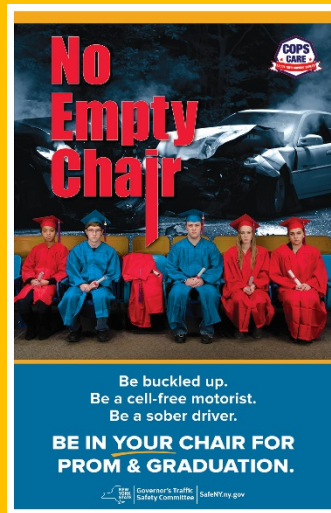
Each year thousands of high school students across New York State look forward to attending their prom and graduation ceremony. These memorable moments for parents, siblings, educators, and the community become meaningless when a teen dies in a car crash. Regrettably, this scenario happens all too often, and law enforcement is tasked with making the difficult “knock on the door”. To reduce these tragedies the Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee (GTSC) developed the “No Empty Chair” (NEC) campaign symbolizing a missing high school student for the prom or on graduation day. During this five-day initiative (April 19 -April 23) The Village of Mamaroneck Police Department will assign patrols to focus on a different traffic safety threat each day of the week. This is also an opportunity to increase awareness about safe teen driving. Resources to educate and inform drivers ages 16-20 are available at the following link: [Younger Drivers Toolkit | Governor's Traffic Safety Committee \(ny.gov\)](#).

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Monday, April 19, 2021 | - Speeding in School Zones |
| Tuesday, April 20, 2021 | - Seatbelt/Child Restraints |
| Wednesday, April 21, 2021 | - Cell Phone and Texting |
| Thursday, April 22, 2021 | - Operation Safe Stop* |
| Friday, April 23, 2021 | - Underage Drinking/Impaired Driving |

***Operation Safe Stop** is a statewide education and enforcement initiative which targets school bus safety. Did you know an estimated 50,000 motor vehicles illegally pass NYS school buses everyday!

2021 “Operation Safe Stop”

April 22



Operation Safe Stop is a statewide education and enforcement initiative which targets school bus safety. Did you know an estimated 50,000 motor vehicles illegally pass NYS school buses every day!

The Law Says:

- It is illegal - and very dangerous - to pass a stopped school bus when the large red lights located on top of the bus are flashing. Flashing lights mean the bus is picking up or discharging students.
- You must stop whether you are approaching the school bus from the front or overtaking it from the rear.
- You must always stop for flashing red lights, even on divided and multilane highways and on school grounds.
- The first-time fine for illegally passing a school bus is a \$250 to \$400 fine, 5 points on your license, and/or possibly 30 days in jail.
- Worse yet, the memory of hitting or killing a child may be one you carry for the rest of your life!

Penalties for Passing a Stopped School Bus:

By Conviction	Minimum Fine	Maximum Fine	Possible Imprisonment
1 st Conviction	\$250.00	\$400.00	Up to 30 Days
2 nd Conviction (within 3 years)	\$600.00	\$750.00	Up to 180 Days
3 rd or subsequent Convictions (within 3 years)	\$750.00	\$1,000.00	Up to 180 days

Remember!

- **Yellow Light** means the bus is going to stop. **Slow Down!**
- **Red lights** mean students are getting on or off the bus. **STOP! STOP! STOP!**
- The goal of *Operation Safe Stop* is to proactively educate motorists about the dangers of passing stopped school busses.