**IS YOUR CHILD READY TO GRADUATE TO THE NEXT SEAT?**

**Infants until at least 1 year old and at least 20 pounds should be in rear-facing car seats.**

Never put an infant in the front seat of a vehicle with a passenger air bag.*

- Keep harness straps snug.
- Route harness straps in upper slots at or above shoulder level.
- Route harness straps in lower slots at or below shoulder level when rear-facing.
- Keep harness straps snug.
- Place car seat in upright position.
- Fasten harness clip at armpit level.
- Recline a rear-facing seat at a 45 degree angle. A firmly rolled up towel under the car seat may help.

*Unless you have a manual cut-off switch and you have turned it off!

**Forward-facing car seat.**

- Keep harness straps snug.
- Place car seat in upright position.
- Fasten harness clip at armpit level.

**Kids over 1 year old and between 20 and 40 pounds can be in forward-facing car seats.**

**Kids between 40 and about 60/80 pounds (usually 4 to 8 years old) should be in booster seats.**

- Kids this size are too small to fit correctly in adult safety belts alone.
- These seats must be used with both lap and shoulder belts.

**High Back Belt-Positioning Booster Seat**

- If your vehicle has a low back seat and your child’s ears are above it, you need a high back booster seat to protect the head.

**Belt-Positioning Booster Seat**

- A booster seat makes lap shoulder belts fit correctly: low over hips and upper thighs and snug over the shoulders.

**Lap/Shoulder belt**

- To fit correctly in a safety belt, kids must be tall enough to sit with knees bent at the edge of the seat without slouching.

**Usually kids over 80 pounds and 8 years old can fit correctly in Lap/Shoulder Belts.**

Remember to read and follow your vehicle Owner’s Manual and Car Seat Instructions carefully.
ALL VIPs RIDE IN THE BACK SEAT.

If it is absolutely necessary for a child to ride in the front seat with a passenger air bag:

- Never put a rear-facing infant (less than one year old for under 20 pounds) in the front seat.
- Secure the child properly in the correct restraint.
- Move the front seat as far back from the dashboard as possible.
- Never allow the child to lean toward the dashboard.

KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFER WITH A TETHER!

TETHER STRAP

To attach the tether strap to the vehicle, your vehicle needs a tether anchor. See your automobile dealer’s parts department to order a tether anchor for installation.

BEFORE YOU HIT THE ROAD, READ THIS.

Take a minute to be sure your child is riding safely. Study your vehicle owner’s manual and car seat instructions carefully.

Send in the car seat registration card to be notified in case your car seat is recalled. If you have any questions, call the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s Auto Safety Hotline (888-DASH-2DOT).

Replace any car seat that has been involved in a crash.

Route the safety belt correctly through the car seat.

Correctly buckle the car seat into the vehicle.

Get a tight fit. The seat should not move more than one inch from side to side or toward the front of the vehicle.

Check your vehicle owner’s manual to see if you need a locking clip. Not all safety belts will secure your car seat without it.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT THE WEBSITES BELOW.

- AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety www.aaafs.org
- Buckle Up Florida www.buckleupflorida.com
- Insurance Institute for Highway Safety www.hwysafety.org
- Safe Kids Campaign www.safekids.org

PROVIDED BY THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE TRAFFIC SAFETY AWARENESS TEAM (813) 247-8115 www.hcso.tampa.fl.us

4 OUT OF 5 CAR SEATS ARE USED WRONG.

COULD YOURS BE ONE OF THEM?