



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
TRANSPORTATION CABINET  
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Andy Beshear  
GOVERNOR

Jim Gray  
SECRETARY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Law Enforcement and Child Passenger Safety Experts Recognized for Excellence in Seat Belt and Child Restraint Enforcement**

*Ceremony salutes efforts to save lives on Kentucky roadways*

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (Aug. 21, 2024)** – Today, state officials recognized more than 100 state and local law enforcement officers, along with child passenger safety personnel, for their outstanding efforts to safeguard drivers and passengers on Kentucky highways.

The annual Governor’s Occupant Protection Enforcement Awards, held at the Campbell House in Lexington, highlighted the efforts of Kentuckians representing 130 different agencies.

“Both our law enforcement professionals and child passenger safety experts play a crucial role in protecting our families, by making sure everyone is properly secured with seat belts and that children are in the appropriate car seats and boosters,” said Gov. Andy Beshear. “Their vital work is saving lives, and as Governor and a dad, I am grateful for their unwavering dedication to our state and its residents.”

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet’s (KYTC) Office of Highway Safety (KOHS) presented the awards to those with the most occupant protection citations in each agency and in each division from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. Award recipients received a plaque, while the top division winners were presented with the Highway Safety All-Star Award – a commemorative baseball bat from Louisville Slugger. There are six divisions, broken down by number of officers within the agency, and a division for Kentucky State Police:

- Division I 1-10 officers
- Division II 11-25 officers
- Division III 26-50 officers
- Division IV 51-100 officers
- Division V 100+ officers
- Division VI Kentucky State Police

In addition to honoring law enforcement, KOHS also presented awards for Technician, Instructor and CPS Team of the Year.

Kentucky State Police Commissioner Phillip Burnett Jr. addressed the attendees and praised their efforts to save lives in their communities.

“Enforcing the law isn’t about raising the number of citations; it’s about encouraging safe driving behaviors,” Commissioner Burnett said. “Our aim is to see fewer citations, not more, because that means lives are being saved. At the end of the day, it’s about every driver on Kentucky roadways making it home safe to their families.”

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), seat belts, when worn correctly, are proven to reduce the risk of fatal injuries to front-seat occupants by 45% and by 60% in pickup trucks, SUVs and minivans. Also, according to NHTSA, properly installed child restraints reduce the risk of fatal injuries by 71% for infants and by 54% for toddlers in passenger cars. In light trucks, SUVs and minivans, properly deployed child restraints reduce the risk of fatal injuries by 58% for infants and 59% for toddlers.

Each year more than half of those killed on Kentucky’s roadways are not properly restrained in a seat belt, car seat or booster seat. Kentucky’s current seat belt usage rate is 86.9%.

## Child Passenger Safety Awards

### Technician of the Year Awards

#### Name of Nominee

Jenny Pile

#### Agency Name

Breckinridge County Health Department

### Instructor of the Year

Joshua Hinkle

Prestonsburg Police Department

### Team of the Year

Nicholasville Fire Department

## Law Enforcement Safety Awards

### Division 1

#### Name of Nominee

Capt. Mitchell Alford

Chief Aaron C. Ashby

Deputy Sheriff David Carroll

Patrolman Brian Coleman

Chief Deputy Jamie Ferrie

Officer Phillip D Frazier

Master Police Officer Doug Gay

Deputy William Hendrix

Police Officer Wesley Hicks

Chief Brandon Hollingsworth

Chief Deputy Brian Locknane

Officer Tyler Mitcham

Patrolman Teddy B. Newsome

#### Agency Name

Harlan Police Department

Adairville Police Department

Lyon County Sheriff’s Office

Calvert City Police Department

LaRue County Sheriff’s Office

Stanton Police Department

Richmond Police Department

Bourbon County Sheriff

Cave City Police Department

Pineville Police Department

Pendleton County Sheriff's Office

Brandenburg Police Department

Louisa Police Department

Deputy James W. Parsons  
Deputy Jacob Patton  
Officer Jacob Tyler Purvis  
Officer Andrew Regan  
Chief James Richardson  
Officer Billy Roberts  
Patrolman Michael Scott Robinson  
Patrol Officer John Root  
Deputy Dustin D. Saylor  
Chief of Police Ben Smith  
Patrol Officer Chadwick Spence  
Deputy Kenneth Vincent  
Deputy Sheriff Lance Watson  
Officer H. Seth Whitaker  
Officer Ryan Wielgus  
Deputy Thomas Wilson

Garrard County Sheriff's Office  
Scott County Sheriff's Office  
Owingsville Police Department  
Greensburg Police Department  
Hodgenville Police Department  
Taylor Mill Police Department  
Jackson City Police Department  
Manchester Police Department  
Rockcastle County Sheriff's Office  
Millersburg Police Department  
Raceland Police Department  
Trigg County Sheriff's Office  
Cumberland County Sheriff's Office  
Whitesburg Police Department  
Wilder Police Department  
Menifee County Sheriff Office

**Name of Nominee**

Officer Bradley Aubin  
Officer Charles Boeschenstein  
Officer John Brooks  
Patrol Officer Eugene Cain  
Officer David Clark  
Sgt. Garret Clark  
Patrolman Patrick Coleman  
Deputy Sheriff Cory Cornett  
Officer Jon Cottle  
Lt. Barry Cowan  
Patrolman Tyler Creech  
Officer Michael Dennis  
Sgt. Justin Dockery  
Deputy Nicholas Dues  
Patrolman Adam Fauver  
Deputy John Ferguson  
Patrol Officer James Fetty  
Officer Chad Foley  
Detective Jess Hamblin  
Deputy Wyatt Harper  
Detective Dalton Hayes  
Sgt. Johnny Holbert  
Patrolman Timothy Jackson  
Patrol Officer Andrew Jefferson

**Division 2**

**Agency Name**

Mt. Washington Police Department  
Southgate Police Department  
LaGrange Police Department  
Leitchfield Police Department  
Scottsville Police Department  
Graves County Sheriff's Office  
Pikeville Police Department  
Clark County Sheriff's Office  
Morehead Police Department  
Middlesboro Police Department  
The City of Edgewood Police Department  
Hillview Police Department  
Central City Police Department  
Calloway County Sheriff's Office  
Greenville Police Department  
Mason County Sheriff's Office  
Simpsonville Police Department  
Williamsburg Police Department  
Fort Mitchell Police Department  
Simpson County Sheriff's Office  
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office  
Mount Sterling Police Department  
Grayson Police Department  
Maysville Police Department

Patrol Officer Zachary Johnson  
Patrolman Christopher Kohut  
Patrolman Joseph Krull  
Patrolman Geoff Lucas  
Deputy Ron Luster  
Sgt. Michael Lyon  
Officer Kirk Mays  
Deputy Mike Meece  
Patrolman Jonathan Milburn  
Sgt. Nathan Noguerras  
Patrolman Charles Patterson  
Deputy Noah Ritchie  
Patrolman Oscar Sanchez  
Patrol Officer Dakota Sexton  
Patrolman Christopher Steward  
Patrolman Keegan Williams

Campbellsville Police Department  
Flatwoods Police Department  
Cold Spring Police Department  
Fort Thomas Police Department  
Lincoln County Sheriff's Office  
Bellevue Police Department  
Lancaster Police Department  
Oldham County Sheriff  
Stanford Police Department  
Alexandria Police Department  
Barbourville Police Department  
Laurel County Sheriff's Office  
Elsmere Police Department  
City of Lawrenceburg Police Department  
Lakeside Park-Crestview Hills Police Department  
Prestonsburg Police Department

**Name of Nominee**

Deputy Sheriff Chris Beavers  
Officer Thomas Britton  
Officer Samuel Broomall  
Patrol Officer Jeffery Childress  
Patrolman Wesley Craycraft  
Deputy Sheriff Scot Daniels  
Officer Samuel "Taylor" Davidson  
Detective Joshua Doerr  
Deputy Daniel B. Embry  
Cpl. Jacob Gould  
Deputy Jerry Hardin  
Trooper Josh Jones  
Officer Nicholas Kerney  
Officer Cody King  
Officer Andrew Lawson  
Deputy Brandon Purnell  
Sgt. Brandon Record  
Sgt. Matt Reed  
Officer Jose Roman Jr.  
Patrol Officer Matthew Semler  
Sgt. Mark Wheeler  
Patrol Officer Danny Williams  
Officer David Williams  
Deputy Sheriff Quintin Wright

**Division 3**

**Agency Name**

Marshall County Sheriff's Office  
Kenton County Police  
Campbell County Police Department  
Glasgow Police Department  
Winchester Police Department  
Madison County Sheriff's Office  
Paris Police Department  
Bardstown Police Department  
Bullitt County Sheriff's Office  
Daviess County Sheriff's Office  
Nelson County Sheriff's Office  
Kentucky State Police Post 10  
Harlan Radcliff Police Department  
Somerset Police Department  
London Police Department  
Franklin County Sheriff's Office  
Danville Police Department  
Winchester Police Department  
Mayfield Police Department  
Erlanger Police  
Boyd County Sheriff  
Murray Police Department  
Oldham County Police Dept  
Logan County Sheriff's Office

Sgt. Jeremy Younger

Shelbyville Police Department

**Name of Nominee**

Patrol Deputy Louis Armstrong  
Officer William Conn  
Officer James Frint  
Officer Aaron Gutermuth  
Officer Michael Martinez  
Deputy Kenneth W. Mayfield  
Officer Thomas Minter  
Patrol Officer Daniel Pennaman  
Patrol Officer Anthony Pinkston  
Officer Dustin Scott  
Officer Keith Thuline  
Officer Jerry Wise

**Division 4**

**Agency Name**

Christian County Sheriff's Office  
University of Kentucky Police Department  
Ashland Police Department  
Jeffersontown Police Department  
Hopkinsville Police Department  
Warren County Sheriff's Office  
Elizabethtown Police Department  
Henderson Police Department  
Florence Police Department  
Madisonville Police Department  
Paducah Police Department  
Frankfort Police Department

**Name of Nominee**

Sgt. David Flannery  
Deputy Teddy Melton  
Patrolman Michael Roby  
Specialist Doug Ullrich  
Detective Raymond Wonka

**Division 5**

**Agency Name**

Lexington Police Department  
Boone County Sheriff's Office  
Owensboro Police Department  
Covington Police Department  
Louisville Metro Police Department

**Name of Nominee**

Trooper "R" Toney Allen  
Trooper Mike Armstrong  
Sgt. Joseph R. Bartolotti  
Senior Trooper Ricky Cross  
Master Trooper Eric Hines  
Trooper Chris Johnson  
Inspector II Justin Kilgore  
Trooper Colt McGuire  
Trooper Samuel Mizner  
Trooper Ricky Newsom  
Senior Trooper Derral Redwine  
Master Trooper Graham Rutherford  
Trooper Jordan Sammons  
Trooper Justin Vanhook  
Senior Trooper Branden Watts  
Trooper William Watts

**Division 6**

**Agency Name**

Kentucky State Police - Post 7  
Kentucky State Police - Post 8  
Kentucky State Police - Post 2  
Kentucky State Police - Post 15  
Kentucky State Police - Post 4  
Kentucky State Police - Post 6  
Kentucky State Police CVE East  
Kentucky State Police - Post 5  
Kentucky State Police - Post 16  
Kentucky State Police - Post 9  
Kentucky State Police - Post 1  
Kentucky State Police - Post 3  
Kentucky State Police - Post 14  
Kentucky State Police - Post 11  
Kentucky State Police - Post 13  
Kentucky State Police - Post 12

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**NOTE TO EDITORS:** Ceremony photos can be viewed [here](#).

