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### **An Illinois Law Enforcement Recognition Program**

The Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police announces the “Looking Beyond The Safety Belt” awards program. This program was established to recognize law enforcement officers whose observations during a traffic stop based on a safety belt violation, result in the discovery of evidence of a crime and/or apprehension of criminals. Case histories submitted by law enforcement agencies help substantiate the importance of traffic stops as a tool in uncovering other crimes. All too often we think of traffic stops as being “routine” while clearly they are not. Each and every day, law enforcement officers apprehend fugitives and recover evidence of other crimes, based on traffic stops for “routine” violations. The Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police supports the enforcement of the state’s primary safety belt law and encourages officers to take enforcement action in their jurisdictions.

### **ENTRY RULES**

1. All entries submitted for the Looking Beyond The Safety Belt award program must be based on traffic stops made by law enforcement officers where the probable cause for the stop was based on a violation of the Illinois Occupant Protection law or local ordinance.
2. Each entry must include a cover letter on original department letterhead from the agency head or his/her designee.
3. Each entry must be based on a traffic stop made during the previous calendar year.
4. All entries are due in Springfield on May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year for the previous year to be considered for the program.
5. All entries and supporting data become the property of the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police and will not be returned.
6. A panel of judges selected by the ILACP Traffic Committee will review all entries and will determine the top winner each year, in the categories of 1) State Police, 2) County Sheriff, and 3) Municipal Police and 4) Chicago Police. The decisions of the judging team are final.
7. Winners will be notified by mail and will be recognized at the Traffic Safety Challenge Awards ceremony at the Police/Security Expo in August.
8. The ILACP reserves the right to publish the names and photographs of the winners and their agencies as part of the statewide campaign.

For more information, contact the ILACP Traffic Committee Chairpersons:  
Program Director Scott Kristiansen, 847 456-2293 / [kristiansenscott@aol.com](mailto:kristiansenscott@aol.com) or  
Deputy Chief Paul Rizzo (ret.) IDOT LEL 224 286-0201 [prizzolel@gmail.com](mailto:prizzolel@gmail.com)

**See following page for nomination form**



# *Looking Beyond The Safety Belt*

An Illinois Law Enforcement Recognition Program

## **ENTRY FORM**



Date of Traffic Stop: \_\_\_\_\_ (Must have occurred in previous year)

Officer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Star/Badge # \_\_\_\_\_

Law Enforcement Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone # For Person Completing Nomination \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person Completing This Form: \_\_\_\_\_

**For entry to be considered, each area below must be completed with attachments, and submitted with a cover letter from the head of the agency or his/her designee.**

**Briefly describe the events leading up to the traffic stop (time of day, location, was officer by him/herself, other violations noted other than occupant restraint prior to the stop?):**

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**Briefly describe the events leading up to the discovery of other crimes, fugitives, evidence recovered, searches conducted, etc.:**

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**What was the result of the stop (arrests made, charges filed, crimes cleared, etc.)?**

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**Please attach any arrest or case reports, newspaper clippings or other supporting materials. Use additional paper if needed, to expand on the above information.**

**Please return applications **BY May 1st** to: Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, ATTN: Traffic Committee, 426 S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Springfield, IL 62701-1824**

**For information: Program Director Scott Kristiansen, 847 456-2293 [kristiansenscott@aol.com](mailto:kristiansenscott@aol.com)  
or Deputy Chief Paul Rizzo (ret.) IDOT LEL, 224 286-0201 / [prizzolel@gmail.com](mailto:prizzolel@gmail.com)**