

NEWS RELEASE



GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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From Monday, April 15, through Friday, April 19, 2024, the Department participated in the No Empty Chair Campaign in collaboration with the NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. This enforcement and education initiative aimed to promote safe driving habits of young drivers, particularly in the vicinity of area schools, student walking zones, and bus stops.

The campaign's primary goal was to ensure that students develop safe driving habits that will allow them to attend their proms and graduation ceremonies. By raising awareness about the dangers of reckless driving, we hope to significantly reduce the number of motor vehicle crashes, which are currently the leading cause of unintentional deaths for 16 and 17-year-old teens.

During this campaign, the Garden City Police Department focused on enforcing excessive speeds, unsafe driving, seatbelt/child use, cell phone and texting violations, passing stopped school bus violations and underage drinking.

As a result of this initiative, the Department issued 105 tickets for various traffic and safety violations, including:

- 31 Excessive Speed in a School Zone
- 03 Excessive Speed
- 03 Cellphone/Texting Violations
- 02 Passed School Bus
- 07 Seatbelt/Occupant Restraint Violations
- 06 Suspended License/Registration Incidents
- 09 Unlicensed Operator Violations
- 30 Additional Traffic Violations
- 14 Traffic Control Violations

On Friday, April 19, 2024, in coordination with the Garden City High School Principals, Commissioner Jackson, Detective Roumeliotis and Marge Lee from *DEDICATEDD* conducted a driver safety symposium with 600 junior and senior students.