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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Heather Burnette, PIO
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May 23, 2023

**Safe Communities Coalition to Host
 Buckle Up, Batter Up Press Event**

The Toledo-Lucas County Health Department’s Safe Communities Coalition, along with community partners, is hosting a press event to raise awareness of the importance of seatbelt use.

WHO: TLCHD Safe Communities
 Toledo Mud Hens
 Ohio State Highway Patrol
 AAA
 Saved by the Belt

WHAT: Press conference to raise awareness of the importance of seatbelt use while riding in a vehicle.

WHEN: Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 4:00 PM

WHERE: Fifth Third Field, Main Gate
 Corner of Washington St. and N. Huron

Seatbelts play an essential role in vehicle crashes. They have decreased the severity of injuries and have prevented countless deaths. The Toledo-Lucas County Health Department and its partners want to share how the simple act of buckling a seatbelt can make the difference between life and death.

This event will take place before the Toledo Mud Hens game against Rochester, scheduled for 6:35 pm. Guests will learn statistics from the Ohio State Highway Patrol and Lucas County Safe Communities. A Saved by the Belt award recipient will be there to give their firsthand story of survival. The event will also include a color guard performance. State Patrol cruisers will be lined up outside the field, and OSHP troopers will throw the first pitch.

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