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# Safe Kids Bee

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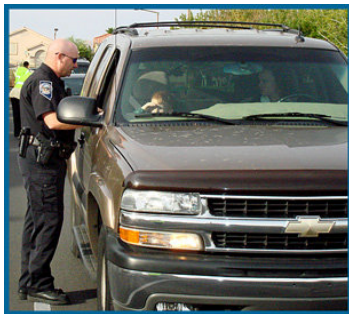
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## Buckle Up with Boo

The week of Halloween, Safe Kids visited Bonner Elementary School in Summerlin. Bonner had a problem with kids not buckling up and not being in booster

seats. We took our Buck for a Buckle program and modified it for the elementary school crowd: Buckle

Up with Boo was launched. Kyle Vantosky dressed in a friendly ghost costume and greeted kids in vehicles as they arrived at school. Bucks were given to kids who were safety belted. Jeanne Cosgrove, Executive Director, and Boo also visited the Kindergarten classes and delivered a safe trick-or-treating message via a poem written by Jeanne (see next page).



Unfortunately, we identified that many Bonner kids were riding in the front seat; children well under the age 13 minimum safety limit for riding in the front seat.

It took three visits from our Safe Kids team, plus educational flyers going home to parents, to help parents and students understand why riding unbuckled or in the front seat, even just to school, is dangerous. In the end, Bonner students showed what they learned by more and more students riding correctly at each unannounced checkpoint! The percentage of boys riding buckled in the back seat increased overall by 12% while the percentage of girls riding buckled in back increased by 35%. The program works!

## Who Is? . . . Jo Preston

Jo Preston, Safe Kids Hotline Grant Coordinator, is the epitome of a strong woman. From her work ethic, to her role as mother of five sons and grandmother of nine, Jo exhibits an uncommon steely grace in everything she does. Jo takes charge and executes her duties at Safe Kids with the directness of a military general and the gentleness of your favorite Sunday school teacher. As she directs you to properly complete your Safe Kids paperwork

you may hear her call you "baby" or "Pooh". Her endearments happily encourage even the most lackadaisical to do exactly as they are told!

The dichotomy that is Jo Preston is a remarkably adaptable woman. She succeeded in the tough and dangerous world of police work to become a well-respected and oft recognized officer. And yet, every day finds Jo smartly dressed and perfectly coiffed...she actually has shoes &

jewelry that coordinates with the Safe Kids lime green Hotline t-shirts!

Jo recently retired from the North Las Vegas Police Department after 15 years of service. She began her career as a Deputy for the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Office. She chose law enforcement because, after a divorce, it was the very best way to provide for her five boys. She did it all alone and without complaint.

She is enjoying her retirement in a manner

that is so very fitting to someone like Jo; she is working full-time to further Safe Kids goals to keep children safe. In what little spare time there is she enjoys movies, books, friends,



## Be a Safe Kid on Halloween

By Jeanne Cosgrove, RN

Halloween night is a night for tricks or treats,  
Children hustling and bustling throughout the  
streets.

But things can get scary so make sure you know,  
Your parents are with you wherever you go.

Jack-o-lanterns burning and smiling bright,  
Can sometimes look scary and cause a fright.

Ghosts and Goblins, you may fear,  
Black cats and witches may be near.

Hiding in the shadows of this scary night,  
We can see a smiling face nice and bright.



The owls see him too,  
And say "Who, who, who?"  
And who appears but our own ghost Boo.

"Hi there boys and girls, there is nothing  
to fear."

"Your parents and I will always be near."

"My name is Boo and I'm a nice friendly  
ghost"

"I'm here today to make sure this  
Halloween is your most."

"When trick or treating, you must know  
what to do."

"Walk on the sidewalks and bring your  
flashlight, too."

"Proceed with caution, when crossing the  
road."

"Look, left, right, left again and do as  
your told."

"Crosswalk and corners are the safest  
place to cross the street."

"Never between parked cars, can you dart out or  
meet."

"Be careful in driveways for cars that may back  
up, "

"They can't see you, and could run over you or a  
pup."

"In costumes and gowns we haunt the street,"  
"And knocking on doors for trick or treat."

"When knocking on houses, choose only those  
that are lit."

"Then hold out your bag and see if you get a lot  
or a little bit."

"Walk don't run as you go to each home,"

"Stay with your parents so you are never alone."

"It's Halloween, Its Halloween!"

"The moon is full and bright!"

"But we need to make sure you can be seen,"

"More than any other night!"

"House to house in the dark you go,"

"Wear reflective gear to make sure you glow."

"For your costumes, wear face paint or makeup,  
no mask for you."

"Masks can block your vision and you can trip  
over your shoe."

"Your shoes should be well fitted to avoid a fall."

"You don't want to get hurt while you are out  
having a ball."

"With all that is said, don't forget the last step."

"Don't eat any candy until it is checked."

"These Halloween adventures must come to an  
end."

"No worries October 31 will come again."

"Lastly, I want to give you my word of advice."

"Always listen to your parents, be good, be safe,  
be nice."

"Buckle up on every ride in every car."

"Wherever you go near or far."

"For kids your age booster seats are cool."

"Always sit in the back seat even on the way to  
school."

"Now you have all the safety rules down fast."

"No need to be haunted by ghosts of the past."

"Don't forget, I'm Boo, the friendly ghost that  
has taught you not to be afraid."

"You're now a "Safe Kid" and next Halloween you  
will really have it made."

"Be careful, Be safe and there's no need for  
fright."

"Happy Halloween to you all and I hope you have  
a great night!"

*Great Job, Jeanne!*