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For immediate release

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Safety Seat Checkup Helps Pomona Kids Ride Safely

What: Safety Seat Checkup

Where: Walmart store parking lot, 80 Rio Rancho Road, Pomona, CA 91766

When: Thursday, April 7, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Why: Car crashes kill hundreds of children each year and injure tens of thousands. Many die unnecessarily because 9 out of 10 kids aren't buckled up correctly. Families will learn how to install their safety seats correctly, why children should ride rear-facing until at least two years old, and why kids need booster seats until 10 – 12 years old.

TORRANCE, CA (March 1, 2011) – SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. is offering parents the opportunity to have their children's safety seats inspected at a safety seat checkup on Thursday, April 7, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The checkup location is the Walmart parking lot, 80 Rio Rancho Road, Pomona, CA 91766. Parents and caregivers are advised to make a checkup appointment in advance to avoid waiting in line or being turned away. Call the Safe Ride Helpline (310-222-6860) after 12 noon, Monday-Friday, or leave a message.

More than ninety percent of the children who attended safety seat checkups in the Los Angeles area last year were buckled up incorrectly. In 2009, 94 child passengers under 15 died in California and 10,858 were injured as a result of vehicle crashes in California. More than 80% of the small children killed would have survived if they had been properly buckled up. Motor vehicle crashes remain the number one cause of death for children and young adults.

Teams of nationally Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians and other trained volunteers will inspect each safety seat to make sure it fits the child properly, is correctly secured, and is in the safest possible location in the vehicle. Children age 4 to 12 will be invited to try the 5-Step Test to find out if they fit properly in the vehicle safety belts or require use of a booster.

This event is made possible with funding from a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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