



**State of Illinois**  
Pat Quinn, Governor



**Illinois Department of Transportation**  
Erica Borggren, Acting Secretary

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

September 12, 2014

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## **IDOT, White Castle and Auto Zone Team Up to Encourage At-Risk Populations to Buckle Up and Avoid Driving Drunk** *Public-Private Partnerships Formed to Help Save Lives in Chicago Communities*

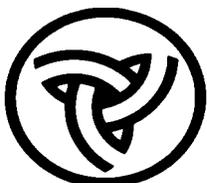
**SPRINGFIELD** – Acting Transportation Secretary Erica J. Borggren today announced that the Illinois Department of Transportation’s Safe Communities for Illinois program is teaming up with White Castle and Auto Zone to help ensure at-risk Chicago communities, where there are high motor vehicle related injuries and fatalities and low safety belt use, receive crucial information to assist in making life-saving decisions.

“We are proud to partner with White Castle and Auto Zone to encourage motorists to buckle up and to not drink and drive,” Acting Secretary Borggren said. “Our ultimate goal is to prevent serious injury crashes and fatalities on all Illinois roadways. Working together with businesses like these, we can help ensure everyone makes it to their destination safely.”

As a part of the public-private partnership, White Castle will display highly visible signs at their Chicago area facilities with traffic safety messages to their customers, offer free coffee to those drive-up customers wearing their seatbelts and add stickers on take-out bags that include “Click It or Ticket” and “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” messages.

“As a family owned business, White Castle has been a part of Illinois neighborhoods for over 90 years and share the same desire as the Illinois Department of Transportation to do our part to strengthen communities and promote safety,” said Darrin Cotton, District Supervisor, White Castle. “We are proud of this public-private partnership to help encourage our customers to buckle up and drive sober.”

Auto Zone will display yard signs and banners with safety messages at 25 stores in the Chicago area.



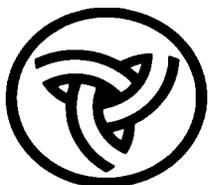
**Illinois Department of Transportation**

“Safety is everyone’s responsibility,” said Auto Zone’s Tina Cleveland. “It is important that all of our employees and customers return home in the same condition in which they left, so we are happy to partner with the Illinois Department of Transportation to help encourage safe driving in Illinois.”

To help spread the important message to buckle up and drive sober, WGCI’s Leon Rogers will make an appearance at Auto Zone at 8915 S. Stony Island in Chicago from 1 - 3 p.m. on Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> and White Castle at 1550 E. 79th Street in Chicago from 5 - 7 p.m. on Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. During the promotional events, Auto Zone will offer a 10 percent discount on any purchase at the hosting location and White Castle will provide a coupon for three free White Castle burgers to anyone who signs the IDOT safety pledge to buckle up and not drink and drive.

For more information about the SCIL program, visit <http://www.scilchicago.com/>.

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