



## What is Operation Safe Stop?

Operation Safe Stop is a proactive approach to educate the motoring public that passing a stopped school bus, when children are loading or unloading, is both dangerous and illegal. Law enforcement agencies, school transportation providers, pupil transportation associations, and PennDOT have combined their efforts to raise public awareness about the potential consequences and reduce the occurrence of illegal school bus passes.

Over the past 24 years, PennDOT, along with law enforcement agencies and pupil transportation associations, have worked together to conduct Operation Safe Stop. **On Wednesday, October 20, 2021, the 25th Annual Operation Safe Stop will occur.** On this day, we hope all school districts will participate by having their drivers document any illegal passes occurring on their routes during the day. If possible, the drivers should get identifying information regarding the vehicle and file the information with local authorities.



### How can law enforcement help?

The Transportation Director at the local school district will be able to identify a list of trouble spots - routes or stops with a high frequency of violations. Using this information, we ask law enforcement to do one, or both, of the following:

- Watch these routes or stops to issue citations. Assign officers to ride the buses along with the children. The officer can collect the information of violators and work with the children, providing safety information during the ride.
- Follow the buses or watch the identified stops in a marked police car. Being visible while promoting school bus safety is an important role law enforcement can play in Operation Safe Stop.

Additionally, you may be contacted by local media. The media plays a very important role in Operation Safe Stop. Information about the program could appear in local newspapers or on radio and television stations. We have had some great coverage in the past which provided some added awareness during (and following) Operation Safe Stop.

PennDOT will supply a tracking form to each participating police department. Space is provided on the form for the number of participating officers and the total number of citations issued. No driver specific information will be requested. We ask that you tally the information on the form provided and fax or e-mail the results to PennDOT by **November 1, 2021**. A copy of the "Citation Tracking Form" is included with this packet.

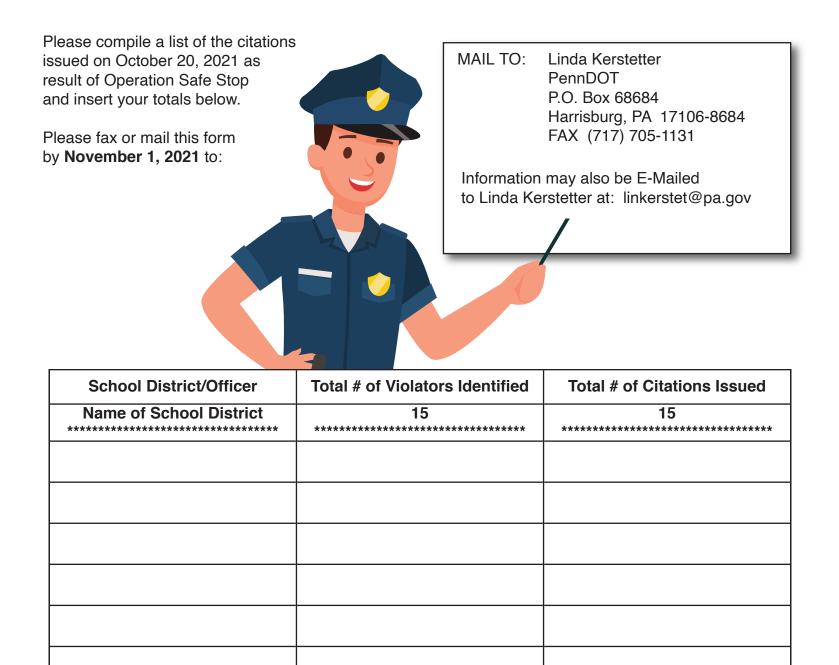


#### How do I sign-up?

Complete the attached Operation Safe Stop Participant form and fax it to PennDOT's Special Driver Programs Unit at (717) 705-1131 or you can e-mail your information to linkerstet@pa.gov. If you have any further questions regarding Operation Safe Stop, please call Linda Kerstetter at (717) 705-6799.

<b>Operation Safe Stop</b> Law Enforcement Participation Information
NAME OF POLICE DEPARTMENT:
COUNTY:
NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT:
CONTACT PERSON INFORMATION
PHONE NUMBER:
FAX NUMBER:
E-MAIL ADDRESS:
If you have any questions, please call Linda Kerstetter at (717) 705-6799.
PLEASE FAX THIS INFORMATION TO:
Special Driver Programs at (717) 705-1131
or email Linda Kerstetter at linkerstet@pa.gov

# **Citation Tracking Form**



#### Total Number of Citations Issued

Police Department:

Submitted By:\_\_\_\_\_ Phone:\_\_\_\_\_