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# Media Release

## *Saved by the Belt and Bag Recognition*

The Colonial Heights Police Department, Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Virginia Governor's Highway Safety Office will award two *Saved by the Belt and Bag* awards to a father and son on Thursday, March 18, 2010 at 3:00 pm in the police department community training room, located at 100 A Highland Avenue. The media is invited to attend this presentation.

All across the Commonwealth, law enforcement agencies recognize individuals who were involved in a traffic crash and, because they were wearing a safety belt or were in a child safety restraint, their injuries were reduced or their lives were saved. In 2008, nearly 40 individuals were recognized across Virginia.

On August 8, 2009, Colonial Heights resident Alan Little and his 18 year old son Ethen were involved in a motor vehicle crash on Conduit Road at Old Town Creek Way. A vehicle, failing to stop for a red traffic signal, struck the Little's vehicle causing it to roll onto its driver's side and slide into a stopped vehicle. At the time of the crash, Alan and Ethen Little were properly restrained by their seat belts. One of the Little's was transported to VCU Medical Center by helicopter while the other was transported by ambulance. Both experienced potentially life-threatening injuries.

The Colonial Heights Major Accident Investigation Team (MAIT) investigated the crash. In the opinion of the team, further injury or death was avoided by the use of seat belts at the time of the crash. As a result, the Little's were nominated for a *Saved by the Belt and Bag* award.

Colonial Heights Police Chief Jeffrey W. Faries and Virginia Governor's Highway Safety Office Law Enforcement Liaison Mr. Frank Kowaleski will present the *Saved by the Belt and Bag* award to the Littles.

Additional information on the *Saved by the Belt and Bag* is available at <http://www.smartsafeandsobor.org/programs/sbbb.php>.