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Press Release

SHERIFF DAVID W. HARRISON JR.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sheriff David Harrison, Jr. reports that Child Passenger Safety Technicians from the Columbia County Sheriff's Office and Columbia County Department of Health recently took an opportunity to thank the owners and staff of Cantele Tent Rentals for their support of the county's Child Passenger Safety Seat Program. For many years, Cantele Tent Rentals has donated large tents for the inspection events, providing shelter for vehicle occupants and child safety seat technicians when conducting inspections.

Technicians assigned to the Child Passenger Safety Seat Program have more than doubled the safety inspection rate and number of safety seats provided this year. The program's success is attributed to the grant program itself, as well as the collaboration between the Sheriff's Office and Health Department. A total of 206 safety seats have been inspected and replaced by the grant program. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 3 out of every 4 safety seats are not installed properly. Other seats may be broken or in some way deficient.

In addition to a safety seat inspection, parents and caregivers receive free one-to-one installation guidance and safety education from Sheriff's Office and Health Department nationally certified technicians.

Child seats are provided, (while supplies last), to low-income families who have a need for a child safety seat(s) and meet guidelines set by the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. Guidelines that must be met before a child safety seat is provided:

- Applicant must have his or her vehicle present
- Applicant must meet income eligibility requirements;
- Applicant must receive education on child passenger safety;
- Applicant must complete the manufacturer's warranty card;

An applicant must sign an agreement and waiver of liability form. To contact a certified child passenger safety technician call (518) 828-3358 extension 1293 for more information or visit the Columbia County Sheriff's Office website at www.columbiacountysheriff.us/childseatsafety.html To learn more about child passenger safety or to find a technician or an inspection station, go to www.nhtsa.gov, click on the child passenger safety icon, and then click on the Fitting/ Inspection Station link or go to www.seatcheck.org

Sheriff Harrison thanks Cantele Tent Rentals saying, "their help allows these important inspection events to be successful, ensuring that the safety seat inspections can be conducted regardless of weather."