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May 16, 2012

Chief Donnie Lee
Key West Police Department
1604 N. Roosevelt Blvd.
Key West, FL 33040

Dear Chief Lee,

We would like to thank the Key West Police Department for partnering with the Florida Keys Healthy Start Coalition at our recent car seat installation and inspection event on May 5, 2012. It was a very successful event that contributed to a safer environment for the children in our community and we simply could not have done so without the assistance of your officers.

We appreciate Officers Deglys Chavarria and Diane Lipinski taking time out of their busy schedules to assist with installing and inspecting car seats. Their professional yet personable approach succeeded in sharing this important safety information in a way that was easy for families to understand.

Following the January event, Officer Chavarria recognized the need for additional support to help with logistics and safety precautions on the day of the event and went above and beyond to secure additional officers to help in May. Taking this extra initiative really shows his dedication to the child passenger safety program. It is for his extra effort on behalf of child safety that Officer Chavarria was recognized as one of our volunteers of the year during the Coalition's annual meeting this week.

Having Officers Joseph Stockton, Donnie Barrios and Matthew Johnson to assist with destroying unsafe seats, traffic flow, and assembling new seats was a terrific help. They also pitched in to do tasks that weren't even asked of them. Knowing the Department has a very busy schedule with limited resources, having this commitment of sending these additional officers specifically to help with our event was especially appreciated. They ensured a much more smoothly run event, maximized the number of families we were able to help and made sure the children attending with their parents were safe despite the busy traffic flow.

More than 40 car seats were inspected or installed during the event with 20 unsafe seats being destroyed. This means we are that much closer to our goal of ensuring that all children in Monroe County travel safely. We hope to continue partnering with the Key West Police Department as we grow the Monroe County Child Passenger Safety Campaign. If we may assist you in future safety related initiatives involving the children in our community, please feel free to phone our office at (305) 293-8424. Thank you again for your continued support.

Sincerely,

ARIANNA NESBITT
Chief Executive Officer

LEAH STOCKTON
Program Coordinator

Florida Keys Healthy Start Coalition is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Federal EIN number 65-0051482. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll free 800-435-7352 within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state.

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